

A darker shade of grey

The first and most obvious message to come out of the TES/NOP survey of teacher opinion reported in this issue is that teachers are deeply depressed by the low level of both their pay and prestige. The was largely to be expected, given that the sampling was conducted at the time when many of them were taking industrial action in response to long-drawn-out and unsatisfactory pay negotiations, when morale had certainly hit rock bottom. There is no reason to expect it to be much higher now, in the wake of the 5.1 per cent arbitration award which rendered most of the action and effort a waste of time.

But below that layer of understandable gloom lies another which deserves to be painted an even deeper grey, because of the disquieting picture revealed of teachers' perceptions of public attitudes towards them.

Although their responses to our questions make it clear that they believe that better pay and incentives, coupled with higher spending on books and buildings, would do more than anything else to improve the quality of the service, they are equally convinced that stiffer discipline, better exam results, and tougher measures to weed out their own weaker brethren would be the public (and presumably Governmental) prescription to improve their own standing.

It is difficult to decide whether to call this realism or masochism, but it is certainly not a particularly healthy state of mind for our teaching

profession to find itself in. There is an interesting comparison to be made here with, for example, the United States, where it has also been upon season for the popular story of teacher bashing for some time, and where the allied activity of budget cutting has more recently given way to a spate of reports in search of excellence in schools. The difference in America, however, has been the recognition in many states that teaching quality goes along inextricably with higher pay and status for teaching, and that without competitive levels of pay teachers would not rate that public status that would attract the higher quality entrants.

Although pay and prestige have always been more closely linked in the US, there is no real reason why the same connexion should not be made here, provided that it carried a similar corollary, that such a reform might reasonably be expected to be coupled with the desired enhancement of quality – and ultimately results.

There is, however, every reason to believe that it is this general state of discouragement with public spending policies towards their service, as well as themselves, which underlies the swing in their voting intentions against the Government. It is necessary to be cautious about interpreting the new majority in favour of the Labour Party, which our survey discovered this time round, as a big swing to the Left in political opinions amongst teachers. Although the popular image of teachers (yet another of those misperceptions?) has

tended to be of trendy radicals, successive TES/NOP surveys since 1974 have on the contrary identified a solid Conservative majority (with the ballast apparently provided by women primary teachers) although Alliance support ran the Tories a close second at the time of last year's General Election, and is now pushing them into third place.

There is still little sign in the survey that the great majority of teachers are moving further left in their opinions or attitudes, and most of them continue to lead the sober middle-class lives, with the high stake in home- and car-ownership, which ought to make them the backbone of Government support. If it weren't for the fact that they are so woefully unable to keep up with the Joneses at home or at work, all the evidence suggests that – with a major proviso about money – they would be more likely to embrace Sir Keith Joseph's education manifesto than Giles Radice's.

Like Sir Keith, they are proving remarkably slow and cautious about throwing out the cane and their vote of confidence in independent schooling in general, and the Assisted Places Scheme in particular, is bound to be even more gratifying to Ministers. The vital importance of in-service training for all is another issue on which they are at one.

But the real surprise is the level of support for a two-year probation period for heads, a pet policy of the Education Secretary's which he has been

tenaciously promoting against a hitherto unanimous barrage of opposition. What we seem to have uncovered, as considerable reservoir of support for the teaching profession for Sir Keith Joseph and aspirations, which might be more widely shared if both the Education Secretary and local authority employers showed more inclination to take the teachers with them than bludgeoning them into submission.

It would be starry-eyed to believe that extra money is likely to be forthcoming in the lifetime of the present Government, but there has already been promised in a deal that would include regular increases the survey confirms the widespread feeling that, provided it is not linked to pay, All this points once again to the DES as the only effective way out of the slough of despond. The possibility of a shift in attitudes, the DES's own admission this week to the deployment made does not.

Sir Keith did force out the admission, Sheffield speech that teachers had lost touch with reality at first. If the admission, conviction to the message that they are unloved, and need not always be so, who knows how it might accelerate the quality?

COMMENT

Costing for contraction

The first requirement for a discussion paper is that it should make it absolutely clear what is being discussed. The turgid obfuscation (spiced with a little blackmail) of the new DES paper on teacher numbers and deployment does not seem likely to help hard-pressed local authorities who are trying to meet new demands on schools with contracting teaching resources.

This is not the place to deal with the statistical details. Basically, the paper is an attempt to show that major changes in the educational service can be made with no extra resources.

It hits some obvious targets – notably uneconomic teaching groups in sixth forms. If Sir Keith Joseph is now planning to give proper support to authorities who want to make sense of 16-19 provision by setting up sixth-form or tertiary colleges, rather than tacitly encouraging the "save our sixth-form" pressure groups, better late than never.

The real flavour of the exercise comes across best when looking at the primary sector. Here there is an interesting, if depressing, comparison to be made with the NAS/UWT's new policy statement on the staffing of primary schools (page 7). The NAS/UWT calls for a maximum class size of 25, and reasonable non-contact time for teachers to plan their work (particularly in the light of the Government's demands for a wider curriculum with more specialist teaching.)

The DES paper admits the wide variation between class sizes and teacher/pupil ratios in primary schools in different authorities (it could hardly avoid doing so after a newspaper leak and a parliamentary question smoked out the figures this summer).

But apart from suggesting, with breathtaking assurance, that teachers could be transferred from the best staffed authorities to the worst, the matter is then dropped.

Instead there is the suggestion that "where primary class sizes should be

raised from 25.1 to 26.1. Teachers will be expected to do much more specialist and differentiated teaching – but they won't need less contact time to plan and organize it, according to the DES.

Now there is no doubt that improvements in the teacher/pupil ratio in better-staffed areas have often been used simply to reduce class sizes rather than rethink teaching arrangements so that a mixture of big and small groups can be used to maximum effect.

The research on class size is mostly very poor, but it does suggest that – at least on the narrow criteria of measured progress in reading and mathematics – there is no difference between a class of 25 and 26, or even 30. Spectacular improvements only come when classes drop below 20.

But three or four point gains on inadequate reading tests are not the point. All the evidence shows that a wide and interesting curriculum, with proper attention to aesthetic subjects, and practical subjects (including computers and technology) is what makes for high primary standards. That, after all, is what the new DES curriculum paper is calling for.

What is needed is a serious rethinking of curriculum and teaching methods in individual schools. Teachers are being expected to learn new skills themselves, and to become more specialist. They are being asked to differentiate more between pupils, and break away from class teaching groups to more flexible arrangements. But when teachers in many areas are still given basic units of 30 or 35 to manage, it is impossible to see how significant changes are possible.

According to our readership survey, nearly two-thirds of primary teachers (pages 14-16) recognize that there is a stage when average class sizes should stay steady, so that teachers can be released for in-service training and more specialized work.

Perhaps the rest came from one of the 25 local authorities where more than a third of primary children are in classes over 30. The Government cannot expect to gain much credibility for its theoretically admirable programme to raise primary standards until those numbers are reduced.

Higher sights

It doesn't say much for the University Grants Committee that there has been a note of surprise among the congnulations that – at last – they have come out as strong defenders of higher education (page 16). Their demand for 40,000 new student places by 1990, decent equipment grants so that British researchers are not hamstrung by obsolescent equipment, level funding for the foreseeable future, and new posts so that teaching and research can be revived with new blood, deserve every support.

And the ringing renewal, in the joint statement with the National Advisory Body, of the famous Robbins principle – now changed to higher education for everyone who wants it and is able to benefit – is more than welcome.

The main argument of both the UGC and the NAB, in their separate advice to Sir Keith Joseph, is that higher education has a vital job in the protection of both our culture and our economy: if they were given the tools they would get on with it. NAB's clear and practical statement, arguing for the importance of continuing education, access for groups who have previously missed out, decent resources, and better joint planning between the public and university sectors, carries a lot of conviction.

But it's harder to buy the assurances of the UGC when they talk of continuing education, undertake to sharpen up university management, teaching and curriculum development, and even – wonder of wonders – call for a "serious university campaign" to broaden secondary education.

Quite apart from the UGC's appalling record only three years ago, when the most traditional and conventional criteria of university performance and student qualifications were applied in making the Government cuts, the value and practice of many universities do not inspire confidence that left to themselves, with no external intervention, they will deliver their promise.



Spot the addict

Heroin addiction among the young has now been added to the select list of topics deemed suitable for shock-horror treatment by the media. One negative result may be that people become anaesthetized to the problem: that is the usual fate of shock-horror topics. Sensational treatment of this, however, may bring a more serious consequence: broadcasting the dangers may actually stimulate an interest where there was none before.

But drastic action is indeed called for. As our feature article (pages 30, 31) observes, official figures for hard drug abuse doubled last year, and the Home Office admits that the figures which filter through to them are only the tip of the iceberg. A real epidemic has developed since 1980 and, as street prices for heroin continue to tumble, it will grow bigger for at least the next few years.

There are some welcome signs of concern. In February the Government announced funding for more than 50 projects designed to tackle drug abuse. The Government's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs has spawned an interdepartmental working group between the DES, DHSS and Home Office, which can only be a good thing. There are some isolated local initiatives, for example the courses for teachers now mounted by Salford City

Council. However, complacency is currently ensuring that the virtually unimpeded growth of the advice and information centres in London, there are only residential rehabilitation places for many of the 50 NHS-run dependency units have wait several weeks long. Since it commonly starts at school-leaving times as early as 12 – or, logically enough, action to be taken through schools, but it is a hard buck to be passed on.

If *in loco parentis* means anything, surely means that readers of a newspaper bear some responsibility for combating the problem, as their professional organizations do not merely say with a shrug "NAS/UWT spokesmen did it" that the job of monitoring it is the responsibility of the employer. Birmingham social worker who page 6 says that teachers need professional support in spotting fighting the disease; he also says that they don't seem too interested, which is a terrible indictment. Preventative medicine is a thousand times cheaper cure.

The BBC's programme aimed at 14- to 16-year-olds, going to grapple with drug abuse, it has no plans to tackle heroin, it was this year or even, as things are 1985-86. Only the conviction for a "really vital social battle" apparently induce the head of the Schools Broadcasting Council to commission a programme on the subject. He is not yet convinced. By the present epidemic may have gone scale again.

There was a minor disturbance at the 4th Year Non-CSE Mathematics examination. A girl had removed shoes and appeared to be expressing considerable discomfort. When correctly questioned, she confessed she was using her toes to communicate with a large number of other pupils in the hall.

'Pitiful plight' of children at special school shut by strike

by Sarah Bayliss

A High Court judge said this week that a local authority pay dispute which had closed two special schools in Bolton since May 2 was unquestionably having a tragic effect on the 150 pupils who normally attended.



Donna Horrocks

Mr Justice Webster said he was not surprised that one parent, Mrs. Donna Horrocks – whose daughter Donna, aged 10, is a pupil at Firwood special school – had resorted to legal action. Firwood, one of two special schools, Greenfold, were closed 20 weeks ago when 200 nursery nurses in the National and Local Government Officers' Association in Bolton went on strike after the local authority had refused to implement the findings of a local pay review.

About 16 nursery nurses are employed as classroom assistants in the special schools working with children aged 5-18. At the time Bolton Council said the schools must close because the safety of the children could not be guaranteed.

Mr Justice Webster emphasized that he was in no position to comment on the dispute but he observed that the pupils and their families were not merely innocent parties; they were particularly vulnerable because they had special needs.

However, after hearing an application in camera from counsel representing Bolton, the judge agreed to adjourn the hearing until October 2. He had been told that two meetings connected with the dispute were to be held today and next week.

He said he was also satisfied that Bolton had introduced a rota system from this week which meant that Donna could go to school in alternate weeks.

He said: "It is desirable that this issue should not have to be resolved as a matter of law if that can be avoided."

Mrs Horrocks, whose daughter cannot speak and suffers cerebral palsy, wept when the adjournment was announced. She had obtained legal aid and applied for a judicial review of Bolton's decision to shut Firwood.

She claimed that the authority was in breach of Sections 8 and 9 of the 1944 Education Act by failing to provide schooling for Donna. She was seeking an injunction to force Bolton to reopen the school.

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall, counsel for Mrs Horrocks, said Donna was a severely handicapped, "sad little girl". Her condition had regressed in the time she had been absent from school and his client wanted the case to go ahead without delay. "The plight of this little girl is too pitiful for adults to sit back... the sooner the adults involved in the dispute can resolve their differences the better."

Outside court, Mrs Horrocks said

Donna needed constant attention since she was doubly incontinent and had no sense of danger. The regression referred to in court partly meant that she had ceased to feed herself. "She could not understand why she was not going to school. Every morning she stood for hours by the front room window, waiting for the school bus to arrive."

The prospect of a settlement in Bolton looks bleak in spite of the talks which the judge was told were pending.

After the hearing, Mr Anthony Eccleston, Bolton's senior officer for special education, said the meeting today was of the National Joint Council which is negotiating an annual pay settlement for all white-collar workers in local government, including nursery nurses.

He said: "Bolton has always maintained that if nursery nurses are to have an improvement in their salaries it must come through a national settlement."

Mr Eccleston said that the second meeting referred to in court would be on September 24, when a local panel concerned with the Bolton dispute was to reconvene. In the past the employers side on the panel had asked Nalco to make special schools exempt from the strike.

Mrs Rosa Kay, Nalco branch secretary in Bolton, said she did not expect a national pay offer could satisfy the nursery nurses in her area. A 4.5 per cent national offer was rejected some weeks ago; any new deal would have to be voted on by a special delegate conference which was not scheduled to meet until October 9.

Mrs Kay emphasized she and other officials knew nothing about a local meeting on September 24, although if there was one Nalco would expect to attend. "We can see no end to the dispute we are in."

Nursery nurses' pay ranges from £65 to £84 gross a week. The Bolton review, in which council officers participated in 1981, recommended a new maximum of £95 a week.

Bert Lodge on the latest move in the row over the Lilleshall centre

Unions seek talks on soccer school

The four main teacher unions have asked Mr Ted Coker, Football Association Secretary, for a meeting with DES officials and HM Inspectors over the recently-established national soccer school for potential star players at the Lilleshall National Sports Centre, Shropshire.

This follows a meeting on Monday with the English Schools Football Association at which the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, the National Association of Head Teachers, the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses' Association and the National Union of

Teachers were represented. A letter to the FA, signed by Mr Fred Smith, general secretary of the NAS/UWT, expresses "concern over the lack of any general debate or consultation within the education service... We doubt whether the educational issues involved were given sufficient consideration."

The National Association of Head Teachers has already expressed misgivings at bringing together 25 14-year-olds into an establishment catering for a passing adult population engaged in recreational and social activities. "Such an environment does not

resemble a boarding or public school in any way – as suggested by an FA representative on television," it says.

The heads also feel social integration into Lilleshall School, to which they will be bussed eight miles each day, will be non-existent.

"Our overriding objection though must be the philosophy of narrow vocational training (in a particularly risky profession) which goes against all established educational thought."

The school, opened earlier this month, was initiated by Bobby Robson, England team manager, in a future possible England players

Swing to science in private sector

by Bert Lodge

Greek is still compulsory in one prep school for pupils over 12. But science is compulsory in all prep schools for all pupils of every age, according to a survey published today.

The swing towards science and away from classical studies is clearly shown in the first census on what is taught in the private sector.

It shows that three out of four boys and girls are studying Latin at 12 through this drop to about one in four by the time they take O levels.

Forty schools from each of the three associations – the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, the Headmasters' Conference and Girls' Schools Association – were asked how much time was spent on each subject each week and what percentage of each year group took the subject.

The answers revealed that science is a core subject from the age of eight

with prep schools teaching an average of 2.3 lessons a week. By 13 this has increased to 8.1 lessons a week in HMC schools and 6.1 at girls' schools. At this age most schools teach the three sciences separately and to all pupils.

At 15-plus, the major O level year, the average number of science lessons allocated in HMC schools is 12.1 with an average uptake of the three sciences of 81 per cent. The equivalent figures for girls' schools are 11.7 and 65 per cent.

Only nine of the prep schools surveyed still start Latin at 8-plus and none offer Greek or German at that age. But by 12-plus Latin is compulsory in 15 schools, optional in 12 and not studied in the remainder. Greek is taught at nine schools in the sample and German at two.

About two out of three HMC

schools appear to insist on Latin in the early years but by 15-plus only one school still makes it compulsory for every boy.

Latin and German are the only significant options offered at 13-plus in the girls' schools with none offering Greek. Latin is taken at 21 of the 33 schools that replied to the survey. German is offered at eight schools with an average uptake of 13 per cent. In one school all girls study German and none Latin.

At 13-plus the girls' schools offer a wider range of subjects than the boys' schools. Computing is studied at the great majority of both girls' and boys' schools both inside and outside the formal timetable.

Curriculum census 1984. Available from C E Publications, Ashley Lane, Lymington, Hants. £1.50.

UGC to spell out ways to end tenure

by Ngaio Crequer

The University Grants Committee is preparing its own advice for Government on how to end tenure for academic staff and moderate the "good cause" clause which makes exceptional reasons the sole grounds for dismissal.

In its "strategy" advice published last week the committee said it would comment on the question of universities' ability to dismiss staff if asked.

The Department of Education and Science has now asked for that advice, as part of the consultation process before it frames its legislation to end tenure.

Next week the UGC will begin framing its advice, which it expects to give to DES after its November 1 meeting.

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, chairman of the UGC, and a known "hawk" on tenure, wants to modernize the "good cause" clause, so lecturers can be dismissed for incompetence and not only for scandalous, disreputable or immoral behaviour, as most statutes now say.

He said this week: "No vice chancellor would try to get rid of someone for idleness. I want that to be able to happen."

The UGC does not keep statistics on "good cause" cases but the Association of University Teachers said that in an average year there might be three or four cases.

Sir Peter also wants universities to be able to dismiss staff for reasons of financial exigency. He is conscious of the problems of providing this objectively, and outside accountants could be one answer.

He further wants freedom for universities to declare staff redundant if a whole department needs closing, or an academic programme stopped.

The problem will be how to implement these ideas and still guarantee academic freedom. Some members of his committee are less convinced than he that a suitable formula can be found.

— THES

Inspectors criticize mother tongue teaching standards

Diane Spencer

Mother tongue languages are poorly taught in badly planned lessons with deficient materials. HM Inspectors say in a report published this week.

But they add the proviso that mother tongue teaching is relatively new and arrangements for providing it are changing rapidly. The report is based on inspections in the spring of 1982 carried out in 55 schools in four local authorities: the Inner London Education Authority, the London borough of Ealing, Manchester and Walsall.

Inspectors found that the take-up for languages was not substantial in relation to the number of pupils speaking

them in secondary schools. Only 71 pupils out of a possible 950 opted for Punjabi, and 38 out of 150 for Bengali. Timetable clashes could account for that, but some heads believed that parents encouraged children to opt for mother tongue only when it did not conflict with subjects considered vocationally more valuable, or with more status.

The report is described by HMI as "necessarily descriptive and tentative because that is the present state of the art".

Mother tongue teaching in school and community, HMSO, £1.50.

Other HMI reports, page 18



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POP AT



Consultations over the Green Paper, "Parental Influence at School" are due to end on October 1. But, according to Andrew Bennett (left), a much longer debate is needed before the Government attempts to legislate as the Green Paper fails to tackle the biggest stumbling blocks to increased parental involvement.

The horror stories that parents tell

Studying the Green Paper "Parental Influence at School" and talking to parents, councillors and governors, I get the distinct impression that very few people are keen for the changes that the Government envisages. For the most part they do not even know yet how the changes brought about by the 1980 Education Act are really working out.

To find out how the system is working I ask each parent I meet who the parent governor is at their child's school. Not only do most people not know who the parent governor is, they also do not know that there should be such a person. This illustrates the major flaw in Sir Keith's Green Paper proposals to extend parent power. He has not solved the basic problem of creating a school governors' system in which the parent electorate feels it has power.

The first problem is a question of finance. I was a school governor and a school manager for over 10 years and during that time there was nothing more frustrating than listening year after year to complaints from the headteachers about problems in the school, recording the problem and asking the local authority to do something about it, only to feel that the request was ignored.

In one school where I was a manager one particular problem recurred regularly. The boys' toilets were down in the yard and the urinal section had no roof. Apart from being concerned about the boys having to go out there in the pouring rain, the head was also worried about the school tradition of seeing who could "pee" over the wall.

catching unsuspecting passers-by. One of the eldest managers who had himself attended the school recollected that the problem had been around for at least 60 years. He well remembered the day the local vicar had been caught. Eventually approval was given by the Secretary of State and the local education authority for the building of a new school.

Recently I was told of one authority which was reducing the number of teachers it employed by 20 for the following year - and yet 20 different school governing bodies had each made a request for an extra remedial teacher. If time after time requests by school governors for extra resources are ignored by the local education authorities, then cynicism will be the end result.

One lady told me with great amusement how the headteacher asked her if she would stand as governor of her daughter's school because the present governor had too many progressive ideas, was a CND supporter, and had "Marxist" views.

So the first problem is that governors know they have no real power over the resources. The next problem concerns the curriculum. The Green Paper talks of governors having general oversight of the curriculum. That sounds fine, except for the fact that in practice the curriculum will be very much determined by the Secretary of State and the L.E.A. through their financial control and influence of in-



Not only do most people not know who the parent governor is, they also do not know that there should be such a person.

spectors, together with the influence of the headteacher and the teachers. How many headteachers or teachers are likely to introduce curriculum changes that they do not really believe in?

The Green Paper also suggests that governors ought to be very involved in the school discipline policy. This may be a reasonable idea as the composition of governing bodies now stands, but would an increase in the number of parent governors really help in dealing with the problems of suspensions, for example? Would you happily confirm the suspension of a boy who lives down the road from you for threatening a teacher if it is implied that you or your child would be the next to be threatened? Would you, as a headteacher, be happy to have your suspension of a pupil overruled by parent governors who happened to work with or for the pupil's parents? In dealing with suspensions the governors are

Twice recently I have been approached by people wanting a headteacher to retire. In both cases I suggested they persuade the parent governors to call a meeting, ask an L.E.A. official to be present and let the parents put their views. In one case this worked out very well, the parents spoke out freely and the official got the message loud and clear. The message was then very tactfully passed on to the headteacher himself insisted on turning up at the meeting. Naturally his presence prevented many of the parents from voicing the complaints they so readily extolled day after day at the school gates, and he argued forcefully with those who did complain. The stays and the parents respond by moving their children or not enrolling them.

Sir Keith is, rightly, very worried about teacher quality. He does, however, accept that there are only a

acting in a semi-judicial role, and the first requirement of a judicial system is that it be independent and uninvolved. Will packing the governing bodies with parents achieve this?

Sir Keith's proposals for an annual report and a meeting of the parent governors with the headteacher in the school sounds useful - and no doubt will be in a well-run school. But will it work where things are going wrong?

very small number of bad teachers. But, instead of analysing why there are bad heads or bad teachers and taking corrective measures, he prefers a constitutional approach to getting rid of them - probation periods for heads and procedures for governors to sack them if necessary. He should realize that in the vast majority of cases the problem can be resolved by skilled management by the L.E.A. but that such

Andrew Bennett MP is the Labour junior spokesman on education.

Pit-strike police accused of rowdy behaviour at college base

by Stuart Little

Police officers have been accused of rowdy behaviour and "petty racism" at a Nottinghamshire residential college where they have been based during the miners' strike.

Some students on teacher training courses in English as a foreign language at Eaton Hall International College of Education and Training for Overseas Teachers have denounced a refund of accommodation fees from the county council, because, they say, police kept them awake at night, crowded out the students' bar and made racist comments in the TV lounge.

The college has housed up to 250 officers at a time since the end of May. They have been drafted into the Nottinghamshire area to police miners' pickets at local collieries.

Eaton Hall, near East Retford, is strategically placed for police to travel to north Nottinghamshire pits, with Tresswell lying six miles east, Ollerton 10 miles south-west, and Haworth 9½ miles north-east.

Students on an intensive four-week EFL teacher training course who arrived from abroad to find they were expected to share accommodation with police, complained verbally to college authorities.

Mr Justin Lumley, who arrived at Eaton Hall on August 1 from an EFL teaching post with the Qatar armed forces, said resentment among students grew when they were woken at night by police shift changes.

"The clatter the policemen made kept us awake all the time I was there," he said. "The fatigue built up and only the weekend promised a night's undisturbed sleep. I, for one, did not give of my best in the final written examination."

He said a separate TV lounge had been provided for the officers, "but they still crowded into ours, letting off steam against Arthur Scargill".

He had been in the lounge on one occasion when some policemen were watching a news report of South African police chasing black demonstrators. They were shouting out en-

couragement to the police on the TV," he said.

Six other students on Mr Lumley's course made verbal complaints to college tutors, which Mr Lumley said were ignored.

He and others wrote to the college's deputy director Mr D.J. Longman, protesting against the police presence and demanding financial compensation. Mr Lumley paid £395 for full board for a month's residence.

Mr Longman replied to Mr Lumley: "Whilst noting the personal difficulties which you have highlighted I am sure... you will appreciate that the college is required to adopt a balanced attitude towards meeting the requirements of all the clients with whom it is contracted."

"I can find no evidence to suggest that the teacher training programme offered has been of any lower standard than that advertised."

Mr Lumley then alleged that police noise breached paragraph nine of the college's conditions of residence, which states that "residents are expected... to refrain from all noise after midnight."

"I must conclude," he wrote, "that police are being treated differently to the students". Mr Lumley said he was told that his complaints had been forwarded to Nottinghamshire's assistant director of education, Mr Malcolm Matthews.

Mr Longman and two tutors declined to comment but Mr Matthews said: "Over the last three or four months Eaton Hall has conducted many courses for groups from Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and elsewhere, as well as English teachers, and quite simply we have had no complaints from them."

A spokesman for Nottinghamshire constabulary said they had received no complaints about police behaviour at the college.

Eaton Hall found itself in financial difficulties when a contract to teach English to 1,100 Libyans over five years was lost in the wake of the Libyan Embassy siege.

Fury at Brent 'experiment'

by Diane Spencer

Labour councillors and teachers in the London Borough of Brent have roundly condemned proposals to hand over the running of at least one school to a black parents' group.

The Labour leader, Mr Martin Coleman, called it "monstrous". Mr John Poole, chairman of the Brent teachers' panel, called the idea "daft", and a "sheer piece of dictatorship".

Last week, a sub-committee of the Conservative-controlled council agreed to let the Parents' Association for Educational Advance go ahead with plans to take over or set up a school to be run, experimentally, according to their own philosophy.

The PAEA's plan, advocated last year by its black councillor president, Mrs Ambrozine Nell, was rejected by the Labour administration. Mrs Nell immediately defected to the Conservatives, giving them an effective majority.

Mr Coleman said that the scheme



Ambrozine Nell: plans for parent-run school

was "all about buying Mrs Nell's support for the Conservative party". The Labour party had been prepared to sacrifice its administration on this issue, he added.

Mr Poole said that if either party had

had a bigger majority, the scheme would have been buried long ago.

Mr Arthur Steele, the Conservative chairman of the education committee, said his party had voted for the experiment because it believed in the same kind of educational ethos as the PAEA.

He said: "If this sort of experiment goes into being, it must be with the absolute agreement of those involved. We have no wish to impose anything on teachers, as the idea is to get the best teaching practice."

The PAEA, a registered charity, was set up eight years ago by Mrs Nell and claims about 500 members. Its grants from Brent council and the GLC totalled £29,000 this year.

The association, concerned about what it sees as Brent's educational standards, wants to set up schools with narrower core curricula, stricter discipline, and greater governors' influence.

The pilot scheme has yet to be approved by the full education committee, the council, or the DES.

Strike call to London school staff over ILEA spending curbs

by Geraldine Hackett

Teachers and non-teaching staff in London's schools and colleges are being asked if they are willing to strike on November 7.

The education trades union umbrella group - Save the Inner London Education Authority Campaign - wants a 24-hour stoppage to demonstrate opposition to the Government's plans to curb ILEA spending.

Teachers in the London division of the National Union of Teachers were due to meet on Wednesday evening to discuss the strike call, but the smaller National Union of Schoolmasters and National Union of Women Teachers is not expected to back the stoppage.

The NUT general secretary Richard Rieser, one of the speakers at a rally of ILEA trade union stewards this week, said: "We are prepared to support ILEA if it has to act outside the law to stop cuts in education."

"Only a complete stand against all cuts will unite the unions. What we fear is the ILEA might make a deal on limited cuts," he said.

Brian Jones, London national executive member of the NAS/UTW, said he thought it unlikely that NAS mem-

bers would strike. "We would like to know more about the alleged underspend this year by ILEA of £43 million," he said.

A stoppage by NUT teachers and members of the National Union of Public Employees would close most London schools. The ILEA unions meet on October 16 to discuss their individual responses.

A rally at the Royal Festival Hall on Monday drew 500 union stewards.

The leader of the ILEA, Frances Morrell, warned the meeting that the cuts could not be made without damaging the education service.

Rate-capping proposals would mean a £75m reduction in the education budget for 1985/86 - a cut that implied a loss of 5,000 jobs.

The freeze on capital spending, she said, would halve the building programme. In addition, the ILEA needs government approval for any spending over £100,000.

Frances Morrell said Patrick Jen-

kins' announcement that the ILEA is to be moved out of County Hall would lead to costs of the order of £8m and would cause "incalculable disruption".

Mr John Savage, director and secretary of the British Education Equipment Association for the past 12 years, died at his home in Ilford last Sunday aged 60. He leaves a wife and three children.

Freeze lifted

Conservative-controlled Bexley Council has lifted its decision to freeze all vacant teaching posts. It said one reason for the change of heart was the 5.1 per cent pay award - which was only 0.6 per cent above what was on offer before the dispute went to arbitration.

Equipment chief

Mr John Savage, director and secretary of the British Education Equipment Association for the past 12 years, died at his home in Ilford last Sunday aged 60. He leaves a wife and three children.

Minister answers barracking from adult education 'terraces'

Peter Brooke's political football

Adult education students get a better deal, in terms of peace per hour, than a fourth division football fan, Mr Peter Brooke, junior education minister, told a conference in Sheffield last weekend.

He was defending the Government's efforts to improve university extra-mural departments and the Workers' Educational Association, known as the Responsible Bodies.

"I know we are presenting them with a considerable challenge, but I cannot accept that we are engaged in vandalism," he told the annual conference of the Association for Recurrent Education. The adult education campaigner got a very good deal and could, in many cases, afford to pay more.

The new grant distribution system which relates individual Responsible

Bodies' grant more closely to student numbers, aims to encourage them to attract a wider range of clients and provide more flexible courses.

The system will also take account of revenue foregone by individual departments and WEA branches through remission of fees for the unemployed and disadvantaged people, he said.

The Government's initiatives in adult education, which had been criticised as piecemeal and short term, would have a lasting influence, he claimed.

Paid educational leave will not be given a high priority on the education shopping list of the next Labour government, Mr Andrew Bennett, an

opposition spokesman on education, told the conference.

He denied that the party was slipping back from its commitment made in the last manifesto. It was more a question of what should be done in the first two or three years of office.

He feared that "previous Labour governments had raised expectations but not the money to carry them out, and so created disillusion. It was best to be realistic."

Mrs Anne Sofer, education spokeswoman for the SDP, said she was concerned about the "sectarian divide" of education and training. "This jealousy and hostility is totally unproductive," she said. Her party would treat education as a national issue.

The MSC area boundaries would be re-drawn to coincide with local education authority boundaries, as this would get rid of a lot of artificial boundaries.

Courses

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A non-residential course to be held in London on the 8th-9th November 1984.

Details from FPA Education Unit, 27-30, Mortimer Street, London W1N 7JN. Tel: 01-631 0695.

PTAs reject 'majority'

by Mike Durham

A parents' organization has rejected government proposals for a majority of parents on school governing bodies.

In its response to Sir Keith Joseph's Green Paper, "Parental Influence in Schools", the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations says that if put into effect it could result in "dramatically worse school government."

The Green Paper recommends giving parents a majority on governing bodies in maintained schools, and "clarifying" the relationships between parents, staff, governors and L.E.A.s to make schools better integrated with the community.

The NCPA argues for a fourfold equal partnership on governing bodies as put forward in the Taylor Report in 1977.

Otherwise, the parents welcome the Green Paper, which, they say, suggests "desperately needed" changes in the powers and responsibilities of school governing bodies.

The NCPA says it is in favour of greater parental involvement in school affairs, but it rejects the concept of a majority - either of L.E.A. or parent representatives.

impressions of vested interests taking "suspect" decisions and arriving at policies without a neutral debate, it says.

The group adds that government by a majority of parents could create misunderstandings. An impression could be created that parents were to blame for poor resources, and that could lead to more reliance on parents' financial contributions.

The fourfold equal representation suggested by Taylor would ensure that parents stood for election because they had the best interests of the school and its pupils at heart.

The NCPA suggests a formula of eight governors for schools up to 99 pupils, 12 in schools up to 599 pupils, and 16 in schools over 600 pupils.

In a case one quarter would come from each of four categories - parents, teachers, the community and the L.E.A. The headteacher would be a non-voting member.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities, in its response, says the government proposals could lead to elections along party political or pressure group lines.

The AMA, which condemns the Green Paper as over-optimistic about its impact on the quality of education, and unrealistic about its implication that disagreements over how schools are run can be lessened.

The response welcomes the Green Paper's recognition of practical problems of teacher redeployment, but says the proposals to give governing bodies powers to vet transfers would be slow and bureaucratic.

It claims the Government offers no evidence for its allegation that L.E.A.s have increased their powers at the expense of other interested parties.

The AMA adds that if changes to governing bodies were to be carried out in the maintained sector they should apply to voluntary schools as well.

The association claims that L.E.A.s engaged in revising governing bodies are already experiencing problems because of the Green Paper and calls on Sir Keith Joseph to launch a fuller and more comprehensive inquiry about "a whole series of major issues concerning the governance of schools", in which the Green Paper would be only a first step.

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As drug abuse grows, there is concern at lack of resources to fight it. Mike Durham reports

Heroin claiming younger victims

Children may be tempted to try hard drugs through ignorance because not enough money is being spent on educating teachers and youth workers about drug abuse, it is claimed.

According to leading workers in the field, too much of the available money is being spent on rehabilitation units and support services for confirmed addicts, and too little on prevention. They point out that despite a £7m Government initiative, there is no single coordinated and well-resourced programme of drugs education in schools, or in-service training for teachers.

School pupils, some as young as 11, are believed to be among the latest targets of hard drugs "pushers" who are finding new markets for heroin as street prices have dropped dramatically.

The Government's aid programme, announced last year, will make £7m available over three years to counter the heroin "epidemic". Interested bodies have been invited to "bid" for a share of the money.

But because the money is being channelled through the Department of Health and Social Security, most of it is finding its way to health authorities and voluntary organizations which run clinics and services for drug users.

By February, with grants made to 51 projects, more than half the money had been allocated, with only a small proportion going to education and prevention. While £3.75m had been given to rehabilitation projects, only £476,000 had been given to projects concerned with education, training and prevention.

The Department of Education and Science has no money available to fund educational projects on drug abuse and it is up to local education authorities to meet the challenge in their own areas, from their own resources.

A leading educational welfare officer



... the fashion is to smoke the white powder over tin foil, leaving no physical traces.

in Birmingham, has described local authorities' ability to cope with the problem as a waste of time and challenged the traditional allocation of resources.

Mr Leslie Male, a former policeman who is an assistant principal educational social worker said: "Money is channelled off to social services departments and medical work, away from the educational side where the concentration ought to be."

"Everything you talk about requires money and staffing. It's true that the

resources for social welfare work with families needs to be improved. But where does it all leave the resources for preventative action?"

According to Mr Male, educational welfare officers are well aware of the drugs problems, but lack the time or resources to do much about it.

In Birmingham, the education department's welfare staff of 89 deal with 189,000 referrals every year. "But our main role is still to get kids into school. It's very restricted."

"The drugs problem is something

that educational welfare officers come across all the time, but with the vast numbers of children involved they just don't have the time to give to it."

Mr Male also believes sent resources are wasted because welfare work is duplicated. Sometimes three or four statutory agencies are concerned with a single child.

"You're in the position of vying with one another instead of adopting a coordinated approach. What it needs is a full-time coordinator for the agencies involved."

Local education authorities, he says, lack the will or coordination to train teachers adequately in the dangers, signs and symptoms of drug abuse. Teachers in turn do not have the necessary support and are reluctant to take an interest.

Mr Male believes drug abuse should be part of the health education curriculum in schools.

Mr Brian Arbery, director of a London-based drug advice centre, Turning Point, agrees that education and prevention are lagging behind other areas in the resources race.

He said: "There are three ways of looking at the drug problem into which you can put money—services for users, education, and the law."

"Resources are insufficient anyway, but it is true that education is not receiving a big enough share of the pie."

The DES has asked local education authorities to collect and send it information about the extent of the drug problem in their areas.

The information will eventually be used to determine a policy on drug education. But there are no immediate plans to fund a campaign.

An inter-departmental committee set up to examine the drug problem starts work next month. The education department will be represented by the Under-Secretary, Mr Bob Dunn.

Inner-city charity workers to take action

Charity workers in a residential area of central London are so worried by the extent of drug abuse in the area that they are planning a £150,000 advice centre.

But little money is available to official and government workers and the welfare workers have had to turn to local industry for the funding.

In a report last week to the St. Luke's Parochial Trust in Finsbury, at 5,000 people in the London borough, Camden and Islington were said to be heroin addicts.

Heroin users are getting younger, a report stated, with some children and 14 now taking the drug.

Schools, advice and welfare workers in the Finsbury area are to be asked to hold an emergency conference to look next month to decide on a strategy.

The St. Luke's Trust, a 400-year-old charity, is promoting the idea of investigation of local problems, but cannot afford to pay for the cost itself.

Its chief executive, Mr Ken Wood, said: "The statistics show we know there is a problem in schools, but we don't know how to solve it. It is. Headteachers are reluctant to do it."

"Our aim is to get together interested parties and see what funding might be available. We have to ask private industry for help."

Taming the dragon, page 33

Teachers' help sought in new efforts to prevent solvent abuse among Birmingham teenagers

Glue safety campaign

by Mike Durham

Birmingham's secondary school teachers are being asked to join in a new city-wide campaign to counter teenage glue-sniffing.

The initiative—the first of its kind in the city—will be educational and preventative, rather than aimed at youngsters already affected.

Mrs Andrea Sheldon, a city educational social worker, said: "We have decided it is time to take some action in the area of prevention."

"Tackling the problem with children who are already involved is difficult enough. We have come to the view that there could be an input through education in schools."

"We think this may be a way of preventing glue-sniffing from happening in the first place."

An important element in the new campaign is a seminar for teachers to be held next month. Up to 100 primary and secondary teachers are expected to attend.

The seminar will hear contributions

from a medical doctor, a psychologist, a teacher experienced in drugs counselling, and a social worker.

It is the first seminar held solely for teachers. Until now, teachers have been invited to attend more general seminars laid on by the Birmingham Advisory Committee on Solvent Abuse.

But Mrs Sheldon said: "The teachers were always welcome but it was almost impossible to get them along."

"It's difficult to get schools to acknowledge and recognize the problem. Very often teachers and heads like to think 'It can't happen here'."

"Part of the difficulty could also be to do with not getting enough basic information to teachers. That's why we have geared the programme of the seminar as a teaching package for the teachers."

Birmingham has also circulated all its 107 secondary schools with a letter to headteachers, emphasizing the im-

portance of preventing glue-sniffing before it becomes a problem.

The letter gives heads clear guidance on how to get help for a child quickly through the education department or welfare agencies, if they suspect a teenager is at risk.

Eventually Mrs Sheldon and other members of the Solvent Abuse Advisory Council want to see glue-sniffing dealt with on the school curriculum, along with other problems like smoking and drug abuse, as part of a general health education programme.

Mrs Sheldon said: "Until recently we have had a low-key approach over telling children about drugs."

"But most children know what glue-sniffing is. What they need is information to help them understand and realize the consequences of being involved."

"We have a duty to inform children. But we cannot do that unless the teachers themselves know what they are talking about."



Staff levels discrepancy an outrage — Smithies

by Richard Garner

A teachers' union leader has voiced outrage over the wide discrepancy between the country's best and worst staffed primary schools.

Introducing his union's new policy statement on primary schools, Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, said: "At the worst end it necessarily condemns tens of thousands of young children to a basic but avoidable disadvantage which is unlikely to be retrieved especially under present government policies."

"Sir Keith Joseph, (the Education Secretary) should take immediate steps to remedy this educational scandal which certainly deserves priority over some of the other crusades he embraces so enthusiastically."

The policy, called "The Staffing of Primary Schools" and published this week, calls for a complete reappraisal of staffing requirements in the light of the current debate about the aims of primary education and the distinctive roles of class teachers and specialists in achieving these aims.

The document's main recommendation is that primary schools, like secondary schools, should be staffed in accordance with the needs of the curriculum and not simply on the basis of pupil numbers.

It suggests a suitable curriculum should include: aesthetic and physical education, language, mathematics, science, and social education, although it emphasizes that the list is "illustrative not prescriptive."

The document adds that there should be a system of guaranteed staffing levels for primary schools—adding that this is essential to allow all children to enter primary school at the beginning of the academic year in which they reach the age of five.

Other recommendations include a suggestion that educational considerations, not administrative convenience, should decide whether children are taught in mixed age classes; that the standard class size should not exceed 25 and that any primary school staffing model should allow 20 per cent non-contact time for primary teachers.

The document says it recognizes that the headteacher's prime responsibility is to organize the work of the school as a whole and that consequently in a school with more than 175 pupils the headteacher should not count against the staffing establishment.

It adds: "In every primary school the headteacher should have secretarial help as well as non-teaching time in which to discharge various administrative, pastoral and other duties both in and out of school."



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Parents step up pressure

Parents at a south London school are pressing for a full drugs education programme after discovering that pupils have been offered hard drugs off the school premises.

Mrs Margaret Bellenger, chairwoman of the Hydeburn School Community Association in Tooting, said the school and parents were anxious to mount a programme if they could win the support of the Inner London Education Authority.

There is no direct evidence of drug abuse at the school, but about half a dozen pupils have been offered heroin at their homes or with friends away from the premises.

Mrs Bellenger said: "A lot of parents like myself don't even know what the stuff looks like. We thought it was injected and so we were looking for injection marks."

In fact, the fashion among teenage heroin users is to smoke the white powder over tin foil, leaving no physical traces.

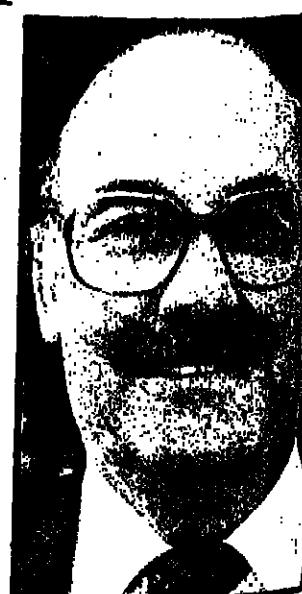
Mrs Bellenger said: "The biggest problem is going to be to get the issue over to teenagers without making it appear something exciting."

"I've had the most terrible job getting reasonable educational material on drugs. It either talks down to teenagers or it goes straight over their heads."

Hydeburn School, a mixed 900-pupil comprehensive, is not reckoned to be a drugs problem school. All the pupils offered drugs had refused the invitation, Mrs Bellenger said.

Parents have been invited to view the film, *Better Off Dead*, and a meeting is to be held between the school's headteacher, chairman of governors, and the MP, Mr Tom Cox, Labour MP for Tooting, next Thursday.

"I believe the education department are getting their fingers out at last", Mrs Bellenger said. "I hope we can look forward to a full education programme soon."



Tom Cox

Heads urged to issue guide on pupil violence

Headteachers should issue clear guidelines to staff on how to cope with violent pupils, a conference in Sheffield was told last weekend.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said there was a fine line between assault and what constituted reasonable restraint.

Education authorities should be consulted about guidelines and heads should spell them out to parents as well as staff. He recommended that heads keep records of incidents, take statements from staff as soon as possible after they occurred and keep records

of the backgrounds of potentially violent pupils.

Mr Hart was addressing a conference organized by the NAHT for heads and other workers in schools for the maladjusted where he said, they were more likely to encounter violent behaviour than mainstream colleagues. The conference, the first of its kind, was designed to help heads with management problems in their schools.

The classification "maladjusted" is the biggest growth area of special education. Since 1978, the number of children classified as "maladjusted" has increased by about 50 per cent.

The Open University School of Education



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A research project funded by The Leverhulme Trust is a research project funded by The Leverhulme Trust is a research project funded by The Leverhulme Trust. Are you required by your LEA to have a systematic staff appraisal? At the initial stages of this research project, we are compiling and publishing:

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PRIMARY

The 'car'toons which drive home road safety

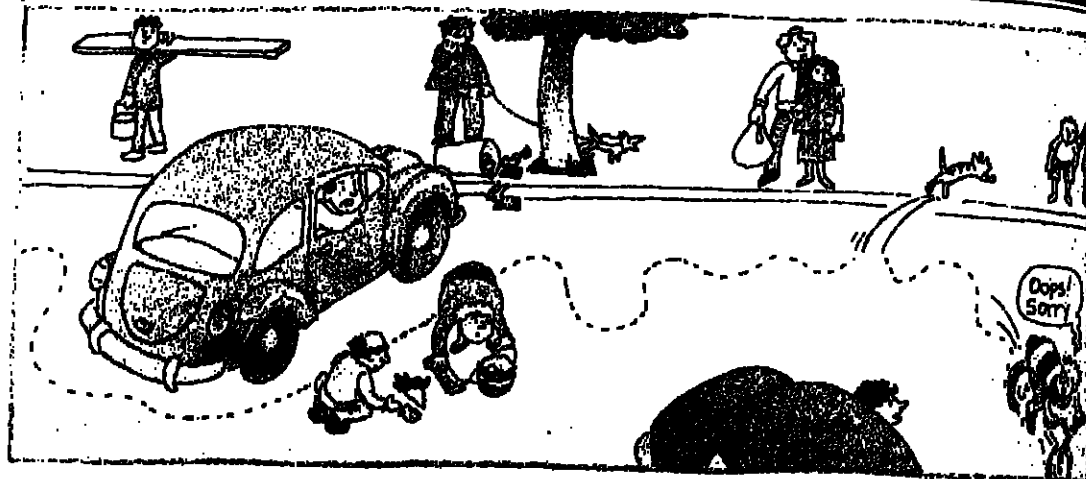
An eight-page comic which uses strip cartoons to communicate road safety messages is being launched this month.

The comic, called the "National Beacon", is aimed at children aged 5 to 11 and is to be published once a term.

A pilot issue was produced for Hampshire County Council last winter and four counties have now ordered 10,000 copies to test-launch in their areas. Authorities which order 40,000 copies or more can reserve a page in the comic for their own road safety news and events.

The Transport and Road Research Laboratories will be evaluating the comic's progress and also providing help with education research.

Further information about the comic can be obtained from Peter Bonnici at New Hibernia House, Winchester Walk, London SE1 9AG (01-407 0261).



No grounds for complacency

Standards in some primary schools are higher than they have ever been, according to Mr Len Cowee, Surrey's former chief inspector for primary education.

But large numbers of children fail to develop at school as they should, not because of poor resources, but "through the continued professional exercise of old fashioned, outmoded methodology and organization". Teachers still had a lot to learn about how to use time and how to group children for learning, he said.

He was appalled that calculators were not used more in schools, especially when children revealed that they had them at home. Once children had mastered the ideas of number and notation, they could tell a calculator what to do and could then progress at high speed. Too often, progress in primaries was "too damn slow".

He urged primary teachers to contact their colleagues in secondary schools to explain what good primary practice was driving at. Too often, "the prison walls seem to close around our children in the secondary schools", and all the imaginative and creative work done in the primary school was lost.

Mr Cowee said he was sometimes introduced to children by teachers who said: "This is a group". But he quickly found that they were not groups at all; they barely knew each other's names and certainly weren't working together. They just happened to be sitting in the same corner.

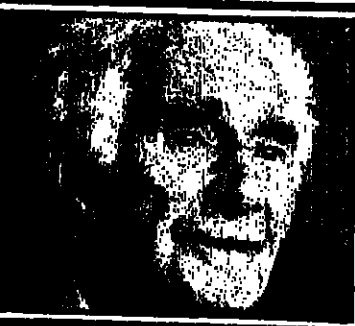
Teachers must recognize that one of their main tasks was to do simple things better, with more fun, more skill, more satisfaction and more love.

Primary schools should be exciting places where teachers made things happen. There should be more games,

more drama, more poetry and music. "Let's have more making and doing... and untie the string around a better quality parcel," Len Cowee urged. "I see some wonderful work going on", he added. "There's no doubt that the best is much better, but that's no reason for complacency."

Mr Cowee, temporarily out of retirement and working part-time for Surrey, was giving his ideas during a primary education conference at Goldsmith's College, London, where he delivered the eighth Christian Schiller

Primary teachers still have much to learn about motivating children, says Len Cowee, who delivered this year's lecture in memory of his former tutor, Christian Schiller (right). Report by Sarah Baylles.



Memorial Lecture.

Christian Schiller, a mathematician and former HMI, was a senior lecturer at the University of London's Institute of Education in the 1950s, running a one-year course for second teachers called "The work of the child in the junior school".

Len Cowee explained how, in 1956, he was seconded from his teaching job in Surrey to become a student. Four other contemporaries, including John Coe, the current chairman of the National Association for Primary Education, felt their lives had been transformed and agreed to hold an annual reunion when the course was

over. This had continued for 28 years. In 1976, when Schiller died aged 80, the reunion became a conference to celebrate his life and work, attended by several hundred heads, teachers, advisers and HMIs.

Schiller showed his students that the final result was not all-important, especially with young children. It was the process of finding out that was the key to learning and teaching. "We are trying to lead children to the excitement of an abstract idea," Mr Cowee explained.

In the 1950s the words "progress" and "progressive" had become terms of abuse, partly because the West was terrified by the advances the Russians had made with Sputniks and space technology. Progression was still a dirty word in some circles, and in education there were still people wishing to go backwards.

Children should be shown that maths was about jobs well done, Len Cowee argued. "It's about bridges that span chasms, it's in planes that circle the earth... it's in your children, providing you make them eager and excited to learn." Schiller's students had often sat round a table with

dried peas and conkers, trying to work out how children could understand mathematical relationships. Referring to school classrooms, Len Cowee said: "There's a surfeit of work cards and a dirth of conkers and dried peas."

Only last week, he had visited a school where, when asked what they were doing, the children said they were "doing Fletcher," and after break they would be "doing SMP". In fact, hardly any of them understood what they were doing. "There's so much of this 'doing' and it's not 'doing' at all," he said.

Len Cowee said that the "expanding network" of teachers influenced by Schiller's work tried to practise one of his main messages - that children learned from direct, practical experience.

Schiller had a lifelong interest in mathematics and believed that children should experience the subject directly. "If they long for ticks and stars, they're being starved."

Recently, during an in-service training course, Len Cowee had run a maths class intended to help teachers teach more creatively. When they started, he said, "most of them thought maths was about right answers, and ticks... they showed a certain reluctance to be up and about."

Some of the teachers did not know how to draw an ellipse. Two of them had an idea and were sent down to a nearby bench armed with some rope and sticks, to attempt a drawing.

"They came running back shouting 'It works!'" Inspired by their efforts, the rest of the class moved to the bench en masse. To the surprise of the holidaymakers, the sand was soon covered with teachers' drawing ellipses. "Not one of them asked me for a tick."

Staff feel incompetent to teach arts

The range of creative work in primary classrooms is narrow and unimaginative because many teachers do not feel competent to teach subjects, a survey by the Nuffield Foundation for Educational Research suggests.

Observations of 60 classes of six and fourth-year juniors have revealed that the typical week's diet of art consists of one session of painting, drawing, some craftwork and a music programme.

Researcher Caroline Sharp found that only a few schools had wide curriculum guidelines for the arts.

Commonly, there was one teacher in each school who was known as the "good" artistic work, but only her class tended to benefit. There was no mechanism for sharing a teacher's talent, she reports in the latest issue of the journal, *Arts Express*. As a result, there was considerable variation in the quality and variety of work done within a school.

In many cases, she says, "Children were told to draw or paint a picture of a monster, a crowd scene, or to fill in a sheet of paper with a little to stimulate their work. Teachers provided materials, gave the children a title, and left them to get on with it."

Ms Sharp said this week that the skills which teachers used to effect in lessons such as creative writing, were wasted when it came to arts. Teachers who failed to recognize their own capabilities also tended to be blind to children's potential.

"*Arts Express*" is available on subscription from 66 St John's Way, London SW1.

Training aid for maths

by Susannah Kirkman

Sir Keith Joseph has announced two new funding schemes to improve maths teaching in primary schools.

Speaking to the Nuffield Mathematics Project Conference last week, the Education Secretary urged local authorities to take advantage of a DES in-service grants scheme which finances extra training for primary maths teachers.

As part of the education support grants to be introduced in September next year, the Government is also making £5.5m available for i.e.a.s to appoint more advisory maths teachers in primary schools. The money would provide the equivalent of 350 advisory teachers nationally.

● The Mathematical Association has re-issued its booklets series and added two new ones - on work with low ability pupils and on teaching gifted pupils. As well as the full list of about 1,000 books related to maths teaching, there are 11 selected lists on different specialist areas.

Booklets for the Teaching of Mathematics in Schools. The Mathematical Association, 259 London Road, Leicester LE1 3BE.

Attempt to integrate Belfast school vetoed

by Mike Durham

Mr Nicholas Scott, the Northern Ireland Education Minister, has turned down a request from parents and Protestant Church leaders for a Belfast primary school to become religiously integrated.

The 60-pupil Malone primary school would have become only the second primary school in the city to become integrated since the so-called Dunleath Act paved the way for joint governing bodies in 1978.

Belfast's other integrated primary school, Throne primary, in North Belfast, is to close at the end of the year because of falling rolls.

Mr Scott rejected the application on the grounds that the school would not be viable and the likely degree of integration was uncertain. He claimed, though, there was "no lessening of the Government's commitment to encourage integrated education."

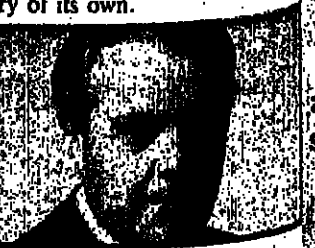
The school applied for controlled integrated status last year after a postal ballot of parents. The move had the support of Protestant church representatives on the school committee.

The change would have meant opening the governing body to Roman Catholic Church representatives and staff might have had to re-apply for their jobs. There would not have had to be equal numbers of Catholic and

Protestant children at the school. But Belfast's Education and Library Board, which manages the school, did not support the application.

Mr Robert Stewart, senior education officer of the Belfast Education and Libraries Board, said the board had opposed integration on the grounds as the Minister. The possibility of closure is more than considered at a review by the board, although Mr Stewart said no decision had been taken and its position was being reviewed in the context of the fast primary education provision in the whole.

Lagan College, the successful integrated comprehensive school set up in 1981 by a group of parents, is understood to be interested in taking Malone school as an integrated primary of its own.



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Falling rolls should give staff more time out of classroom Don't assume class sizes should keep falling - DES

by Bert Lodge

Teachers must stop assuming that the first benefit of falling rolls should always be smaller class sizes, a DES discussion paper says. Instead, falling rolls should be used to give teachers more "out-of-classroom" time that would allow the Government's new policies on curriculum and staff training to be implemented.

The overall pupil-teacher ratio in England fell from 1:21.6 in January, 1972 to 1:18.1 in January, 1983, the paper says. Pupil numbers are expected to continue to fall until 1991 and then begin to rise slowly. Although Government spending plans allow for a drop in the teaching force from the present 408,000 to 386,000-390,000 by 1987 this would still allow the overall PTR to improve to 1:17.7. Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, has sent a copy of the paper to local education authorities and to the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers.

Teachers could be redeployed more beneficially than they are at present, it suggests. Now that primary schools are adjusting to the effects of falling rolls the teacher time specially allowed for that could be reduced and 1,000 posts might be saved.

The paper adds that if staffing levels were equalized among the local education authorities about 2,500 teachers would be freed for redistribution.

Fewer options at secondary level, together with the move towards a broader, more common, curriculum could save another 4,250 posts.

Probably the level at which most redeployment should be considered is sixth form, the DES says. A reduction in pupils' contact time and possibly an increase in contact ratios could reduce staffing requirements by 3,500 by 1990. The paper estimates that by then 6,000 primary and 9,000 secondary teachers would be available for redeployment, with no adverse effect on the PTR.

But even those 15,000 teachers would not be sufficient to meet the staffing demands new policies will make on schools. The suggestion of HM Inspectorate that every primary teacher should have an extra quarter day a week out of the classroom would need 10,000 extra teachers on January, 1983 staffing levels.

In secondary schools the need for more in-service training generated by changes in the way subjects are taught, plus an increase in non-contact time to spend on curricular development, would call for up to 7,500 extra teachers. Activities connected with the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative could demand another 3,000 staff, and the introduction of records of achievement would create the need for another 2,000.

The policy of catering for all with special needs in ordinary classrooms will need up to 7,000 teachers and increased in-service training may demand further 10,000.

Falling rolls could reduce this extra force to some 27,000-30,000 by 1990. The paper says 15,000 could be found from redeployment of the remaining 12,000 only come from the ranks of teachers currently being used to down pupil-teacher ratios.

Despite this, "if the overall PTR were kept constant at its 1984 rate of 17.8, a substantial proportion of additional teachers needed for implementation of new policies would be available by the 1990s".

The paper goes on to say that reductions in the PTR in the 1980s have simply been used to reduce class sizes and "there is little evidence that such marginal reductions can commensurate educational needs. And it ends on a warning note: "Education service cannot look to payers and taxpayers to subsidise falling pupil-teacher ratio indefinitely."

Schoolteacher numbers and life span in the longer term. Available Teachers 2 Branch, DES, 21st House, York Road, London SE1.

Public not aware of heads' responsibilities

A school head was usually responsible for more human beings than the biggest factory owner in an area, a conference at Cambridge was reminded last weekend.

But this and many other aspects of the job went unappreciated by fellow teachers and the community, Miss Eileen Lake, head of Southfield School, Kettering told the annual conference of the British Educational Management and Administration Society.

"The only way I can see of educating the community in the present role of heads is by television soap opera," she said. "Such fiction could hardly be less near reality than the recent series on actual schools."

The media preferred to highlight the untypical and the typical was unlikely to be sensational enough, she said. A recent survey in Northamptonshire showed heads worked a 50-hour

week, Miss Lake said. "The industrial manager is often assumed to devote but not the school head," she said. Yet on secondment four years ago she had visited 30 firms around London and found managers she met regarded that she was responsible for as people than any of them.

"And the protection a manager director gets!" Miss Lake said after the conference. "Everybody who night a school expects to speak to the head. They wouldn't expect to if it was a managing director of a business or a playing a thousand."

She thought the isolation of a head position was one of the most difficult aspects of the job - and it was probably harder for the single head. Wives seemed to have endless respect of patience and understanding. "We have rarely met a male wife willing to give a woman head such support," she added.

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'Lopsided' peace studies courses defended

A fresh battle has broken out over the place of peace studies in school and university curricula.

Lady Caroline Cox, Dr Roger Scruton and Dr John Marks, who is to publish a report next week attacking peace studies in schools, took up the cudgels against peace education last week at a Peace Studies in Higher Education conference at the University of Bradford, while academics in Bradford and at the British Association conference in Norwich sprang to its defence.

Dr Scruton and Lady Cox, whose survey of peace studies earlier this year singled out the Bradford University School of Peace Studies and Atlantic College for criticism, accused universities and schools of offering a lopsided, unilateralist view of peace.

Dr Scruton said university professors seemed to regard it as their academic duty to encourage their students to put unilateralism into effect, and made no attempts to hide their bias.

Dr Andrew Mack of the Australian National University in Canberra agreed that it would be wrong

pedagogically not to include peace-through-strength perspectives in peace education. But he said it would be absurd for peace researchers and teachers not to advocate peace. "Can we think of an economics institute which does not take up a particular position on monetarism, or cancer research institute which is not interested in curing cancer?" he asked.

Meanwhile at the British Association conference, Dr Robert Stradling of the Curriculum Review Unit suggested that balanced teaching might not be the best way of encouraging pupils to think critically and rationally.

In a school where many of the children come from army families, for instance, "they may have strong and often opposing loyalties or... their prejudices run so deep that they cannot even contemplate any other perspective on the issue but their own", Dr Stradling said.

Dr Stradling also challenged Dr Marks' view that teachers use biased resources provided by anti-nuclear organizations. He said that where contemporary political issues were



Caroline Cox



John Marks

Susannah Kirkman reports on the latest skirmishes over the approach to peace education in schools and universities.

concerned there was nothing else for teachers to use but biased teaching materials.

He said teachers circulate biased reports from the popular press and play back BBC and ITN newscasts.

"Many of them even use materials on nuclear weapons published by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, an institution hardly well known for its even-handed, unbiased presentation of information," he added.

As for assertions by Lady Cox and Dr Scruton that teachers were indoctrinating their pupils, Dr Stradling said, there was little research evidence to substantiate the impact of teaching on pupils' values. Recent research into the effects of teaching strategies during a course on race relations showed that, regardless of the approach used, some pupils became less racist and some more racist.

Dr James O'Connell, Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University, told *The TES* that parents' values were likely to influence pupils far more than teachers' attitudes. Research into Catholic education in the United States, for instance, showed that children whose parents were practising Catholics were far more likely to retain their religious beliefs than children who had simply attended Catholic schools.

Dr Marks' new 63-page paper, "Peace Studies in our Schools - Propaganda for Defencelessness", has been prepared with the assistance of Lady Olga Maitland, whose dossier of bias in schools was described as "sketchy and anecdotal" by the DES.

Dr Marks' document specifically criticizes the ILEA's resource list for peace studies for its "lack of balance". Dr Marks' document specifically at Bradford University who has also been examining the attitudes of head-teachers and local authorities to peace studies, denied that there was serious concern about indoctrination. He said most parents and head teachers were more worried about the standards of maths teaching in schools.

Dr Lawson rejected the idea that peace studies should not be taught because it was not an academic discipline. Other subjects such as health education were not disciplines in themselves, he said, and yet were now an accepted part of the school curriculum. He pointed out that university courses such as politics and social science were also multi-disciplinary.



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The exhibition is designed primarily for young people. For school parties ring 928 1777 ext 5378, or write to Mike Day, IBM United Kingdom Limited, 76 Upper Ground, London SE1 9PZ.



Derbyshire in row over 'anti-nuclear' stationary

by Mike Durham

Official stationary in more than 350 Derbyshire schools is to be sent back for overprinting with an anti-nuclear slogan.

But the implication - that the county's schools are being turned into nuclear-free zones - has infuriated opposition Conservative county councillors.

The county council decided to change the stationary by inserting the words "Supports Nuclear-Free Zones" under the county's crest while new letterheads and envelopes are prepared.

The same slogan adorns signs on main roads leading into the county, following the Labour-controlled council's decision to support the anti-nuclear movement.

The Conservative leader, Mr Walter Marshall, described the operation as "ridiculous" and claimed it would involve millions of sheets of paper and enormous cost.

A Derbyshire spokesman said: "The slogan is being put on all the Council's stationary. Most is held centrally, but schools keep their own stocks, so we are asking them to return it."

"Councils felt that having taken the decision to put the message across, it should be implemented as soon as possible." The council claims the cost of overprinting is "minimal".

Seeing the point in visual education

Frank Milner is the education officer at Liverpool's Walker Art Gallery. As such he is one of only a handful of educationists in Britain who are based in art galleries and who are solely concerned with visual education (rather than practical art teaching).

Most of his time is devoted to organizing the regular round of group visits from local schools, showing the pupils the permanent collection and discussing with them the various paintings on display.

It can be an uphill task, however, since although schools may make many visits to the gallery any individual child would be lucky to go on more than two such trips in his or her school career. Mr Milner thinks the responsibility often lies with teachers.

"The tendency is for teachers to take pupils to something they think is more exciting, like a nature reserve or a museum. I think teachers themselves think they can handle that sort of thing much more easily. We still find a sort of fear or anxiety among teachers about bringing children to the gallery - a fear that it will be boring. There's still the idea that art galleries are like mausoleums which is silly. Art galleries are full of very ordinary people."

A recent project based at the Drumcree Arts Centre in Wigan, funded jointly by the Schools Council, Arts Council and Craft Council, showed that visits to galleries could play a vital role in developing children's visual awareness. It's a view that Mr Milner takes for granted, particularly as he considers that visual education in schools is neglected and tends to play second fiddle to the teaching of practical art.

Bob Dent talks to Frank Milner (right) about his work with children and schools visiting the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool



That neglect means he often finds himself talking about paintings with 18-year-olds in just the same way as he can with bright eight-year-olds.

But getting young people into the galleries is not enough. "The really key question is why you are taking them there. What can you do, or what can they do, that can't be done just as well in school?"

There is a trend for galleries to organize painting workshops or other practical activities for visiting schoolchildren. The idea is to get the pupils involved in something themselves, particularly if it can somehow be related to other school work.

Having experimented for three years with workshops in deference to this trend, Mr Milner thinks such activities can be well organized in schools,

and to spend time in an art gallery in such a way is to waste the rare opportunity children get of looking at, enjoying and discussing paintings.

"There is a tendency to think that children going into a gallery and sitting in front of a picture and talking about it and being talked to about the picture is somehow an illiberal or constricting experience. It's not true. They love it!"

He thinks that adults often like to see children doing something. Hence the tendency to go in for workshops. There is also a fear of elitism often associated with the world of art. But it's fear he thinks can be overplayed.

"Very ordinary kids appreciate the complexity of football. It doesn't bother them that Kenny Dalglish is a great footballer. They don't feel inadequate, and people don't say that

Liverpool football ground is a mausoleum for the perpetually elitist sport. The kids go and enjoy football. The same sort of thing happens in an art gallery. The fact you can't paint like Picasso is a reason for not going to a gallery to enjoy the paintings."

Visual awareness, of course, is not always taught using the methods. This summer, for example, more than 2,000 local children visited the Walker Art Gallery to see the art quiz about paintings gallery devised by Mr Milner's assistant, Jane Solars.

It is a simple idea - this year it was how wings are portrayed in different pictures - but fun to do. It draws in children who otherwise not know the Walker exist.

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A new Opposition policy document has important implications for education and training. Richard Garner reports

No quick solution for unemployed young - Labour

Labour's leaders have acknowledged that they are unlikely to be able to provide employment quickly for all Britain's jobless youngsters if they return to power at the end of the decade.

In its policy document, A Future That Works, the party's national executive admits candidly: "It is unrealistic to promise that Labour can quickly create enough jobs for all these young people."

The document - to be put to the Labour Party conference next month - says: "The Tories have abandoned a generation of young people: 423,000 young people have never worked at all and another 200,000 will soon be unemployed after finishing various training schemes."

"By the late 1980s the numbers of young people without secure full-time employment will be even greater."

However, it adds: "A major expansion in training will be urgently needed, not as a short-term palliative deal with the jobs crisis but as an investment in the knowledge and skills of Britain's workforce."

"We believe that young people should be trained for work - not the dole. Our aim is a coherent programme of at least two years' education, training and work experience for all 17-year-olds. And this will be updated apprenticeship schemes radically recast Youth Training Scheme with opportunities for college or full-time education, schools and colleges."

The document also calls for a "diverse expansion of public services especially education and training" and facilities for the unemployed.

The Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination laws would be strengthened. This move would include initiatives to give part-time workers equal pay in relation to pay and conditions.

National Union of Teachers' president, Mr. G. Davies, is pressing for a better deal for teachers for some time now.

Workers should be given the right to go on retraining and further education in order to cope with changes in new technology, the document says.

"Working people must have resources to develop their own initiatives to redundancy by diversifying their enterprises and sectors into production," it concludes.

Manchester's education planners are arranging a series of public meetings this autumn so that they can hear the public's views on the way educational opportunities for the over-16s should be developed.

The chairman of the City Council's education policy sub-committee, Cllr Nick Harris said: "In Manchester there is a tradition that very young people stay on to take further education. We want to make it more attractive for them so they can develop skills which, hopefully, will lead to employment."

Public offered a voice

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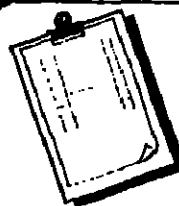
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TES/NOP POLL



The NOP poll covered a random sample of 757 primary and secondary teachers in maintained and independent schools in England and Wales, who were personally interviewed between May 14 and July 18 1984.

Reports: Biddy Passmore. Additional research and graphics: Lois Rodgers

Pay-obsessed staff feel public esteem has hit new low

Nine out of ten teachers think they have sunk in public esteem over the past decade, according to a survey of teacher opinion conducted by The TES by NOP Market Research Ltd.

The poll, which was conducted during the height of teachers' industrial action before the summer holidays, shows strong signs of a beleaguered profession virtually obsessed with pay. Indeed, some refused to take part because they considered it a non-teaching duty, a refusal which may mean that the most militant and disaffected teachers are under-represented.

Teachers took strong exception to the idea that they should be paid less than others with less secure jobs or that they should be paid less in order to release more money for books and equipment. Only 3 per cent supported either suggestion, with rather more in favour in independent schools.

Most significantly for the current negotiations on a new salary structure, teachers rejected by nearly three to two the idea of linking pay and promotion to an annual assessment of their performance (a change since last year's TES poll, when nearly half were in favour). And just over half rejected merit money for "super" teachers; 29 per cent favoured it.

Nearly half did, however, express support for the idea of annual assessment on its own, with a clear majority in favour in secondary schools, where headteachers were keenest of all.

And an overwhelming 84 per cent wanted to be given the legal right to in-service training, a clear vote for self-improvement.

The survey also revealed a high participation rate in in-service training. Nearly two-thirds of the teachers interviewed had been on an in-service course in the past two years and 10 per cent had taken a course during the holidays.

In addition, nearly two-thirds were in favour of setting aside more teachers for remedial work, curriculum development or in-service training as primary school rolls fall, rather than reducing class sizes further.

The Government will clearly have the strong support of classroom teachers if it goes ahead with plans to make all new heads serve a two-year probationary period. The idea commanded the support of half the teachers surveyed and less than 30 per cent disagreed.

Heads did not share the general enthusiasm, however. More than half of primary heads and nearly two-thirds of secondary heads thought probation was a bad idea. Only in independent schools did heads share their staff's enthusiasm for a two-year trial period.

The disruption caused by teachers' refusal to take part in non-teaching duties is amply explained by the survey. Just over half of all teachers spend more than an hour a day on extra-curricular activities, with the heaviest burden borne by heads. Half of secondary and independent school heads, and 41 per cent of primary heads, spend more than 10 hours a week on extra duties.

Classroom teachers in independent schools spend on average less time on extra duties. More than a quarter of their teachers spend less than two hours a week, compared with a fifth of primary teachers and 14 per cent in state secondary schools.

Men tend to spend more time than women on extra-curricular activities. This could be because they take more part in sport and do not do so many domestic chores.

Teachers' relative indifference to the machinery by which the education service is run, established in previous surveys, is once again apparent. Forty three per cent disagreed with the statement that education should be administered by directly elected boards but 40 per cent did not give a view.

The total included 141 teachers in independent schools and 185 headteachers but these disproportionate samples were weighted down in the final figures. A separate poll covering a random sample of 141 lecturers in further education colleges and teacher training staff in the sector was conducted over the same period. NOP has conducted previous surveys for The TES in September 1974, spring 1977, 1979 and May 1983.

The main findings

- Think they are more unpopular than they were 10 years ago
- Would vote Labour if there were an election tomorrow
- Favour annual assessment but not if it is linked to pay and promotion
- Don't think they should be paid less because they have secure jobs
- Don't like merit money for "super" teachers
- Want to have a legal right to in-service training
- Want all heads to serve two years' probation
- Think the Assisted Places Scheme should stay
- Want an explicit anti-racist and anti-sexist policy in each school
- Still support corporal punishment

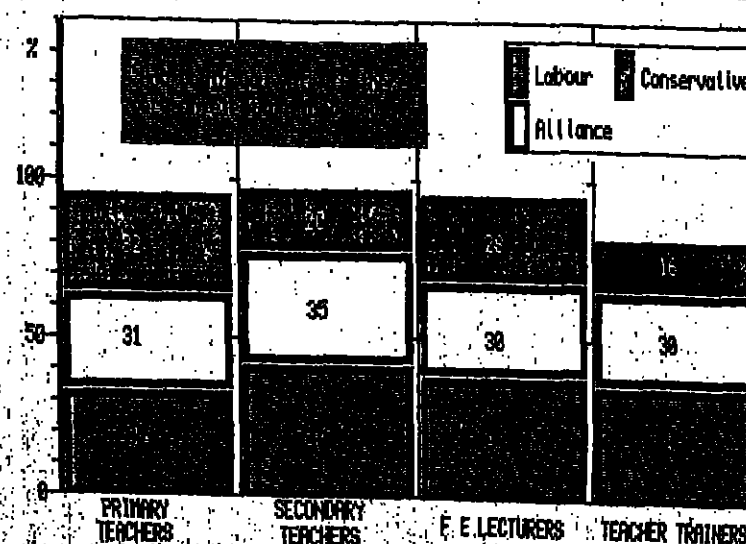
What teachers think about prestige and pay

	All Teachers %	Maintained Primary %	Secondary %	North %	Regions Midlands %
Teachers are held in higher public esteem than 10 years ago.					
Agree	2	3	1	1	1
Disagree	89	89	90	88	92
The teaching profession offers job satisfaction and security and it is right that the level of pay should be lower than for less secure jobs.					
Agree	3	2	2	2	2
Disagree	92	94	92	96	90
Within the present level of spending, more money should be spent on books and equipment and less on teachers.					
Agree	3	4	2	4	2
Disagree	77	82	76	83	74

Teacher attitudes to in-service, assessment and probation

	All Teachers %	Maintained Primary %	Secondary %	Under-35 %	Age 35-44 %	One %
Teachers should have the legal right to one term's in-service training every 5 years.	84	88	84	86	84	8
All head teachers should serve a two-year probation period before being confirmed in their jobs.		All %	Primary %	Secondary %	Heads %	All %
Agree	50	47	31	52	28	5
Disagree	29	30	55	28	62	5
There should be annual assessment of all teachers' performance.		Maintained Primary %	Secondary %	Under-35 %	Age 35-44 %	One %
Agree	46	38	51	53	39	4
Disagree	30	37	26	22	38	2
Pay and promotion should be linked to annual assessment of teacher performance.		All %	Primary %	Secondary %	Heads %	All %
Agree	34	28	38	41	28	5
Disagree	46	64	41	44	52	4
Substantial merit increments should be available for a limited number of "super" classroom teachers.		All %	Primary %	Secondary %	Heads %	All %
Agree	28	25	30	31	25	3
Disagree	51	53	51	51	56	3

Pay and cuts put Labour out in front

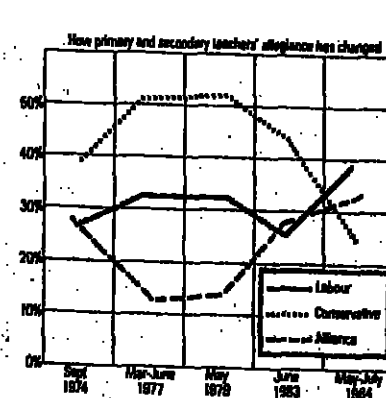


This is the picture since the don't know and won't say have been eliminated. The figures don't add up to 100 per cent because some expressed support for minority parties.

Labour has supplanted the Conservatives as the party most popular with teachers. The Conservatives have dropped to third place, behind the Alliance.

While a shift of allegiance from Conservatives to Labour is to be expected at this stage of a Conservative government – and is mirrored in recent opinion polls of the whole population – it is still surprising to find Labour in the lead among teachers.

Every poll conducted for The TES since 1974 has shown that teachers, contrary to their popular image, strongly prefer the Conservatives. But spending cuts and, above all, discontent with the Government over pay, seem to have taken their toll.



those who don't know or won't say, the figures are Labour 39 per cent, Alliance 33 per cent and Conservative 25 per cent. In the June '83 General Election 28 per cent voted Conservative, 26 Alliance and 24 Labour.

A rather different picture emerged when teachers were asked how they generally thought of themselves. The proportion thinking of themselves as Labour is roughly the same – 27 per

cent – as would vote Labour tomorrow. But 26 per cent normally think of themselves as Conservative and 14 per cent as Alliance. Thus, a lot of disgruntled Tory voters who would register their protest by voting Alliance if there were an election tomorrow.

Natural support for the Conservatives is strongest among primary teachers and for Labour among secondary teachers, with these differences most marked among senior staff. The difference between the two parties is probably explained by the fact that women teachers, always more Conservative than men, predominate in primaries.

But female teachers, 30 per cent of whom voted Conservative at the election and 28 per cent of whom think of themselves as Conservative, would switch to the Alliance if there were an election tomorrow.

Their male colleagues, on the other hand, having preferred the Alliance at the last election, would now return to Labour – 27 per

TES/NOP POLL

Labour out in front

their natural Labour sympathies. And Labour would also, it seems, get some of the votes of male teachers who normally think of themselves as Tories.

The net effect of these changes is that support among primary teachers is fairly evenly divided among the three party groups, with Labour just in first place, while Labour has a much clearer lead among secondary teachers.

Perhaps surprisingly, there would not be a majority for Labour among the post-war "bulge" generation, those teachers now aged between 35 and 44. Although the greatest number of them – 32 per cent – think of themselves as Labour, the biggest group would actually vote Alliance if there were an election tomorrow.

Labour is, however, clearly the favourite among further education lecturers and teacher trainers in the public sector. Slightly more F.E. lecturers voted Alliance than voted Labour last year but they would now return to the Labour fold, giving the party a clear 8-point lead over the Alliance. Labour support is strongest, and Conservative support weakest, among junior staff.

Among teacher training staff, support for Labour seems, oddly, to have declined from 34 to 31 per cent since the last election but is still much greater than for the Alliance parties, while the Conservatives would win only a measly 14 per cent of votes.

Teachers' political allegiance may be moving against the Government but their attitudes to some key educational issues are still broadly conservative, the survey shows.

This time, The TES didn't ask whether teachers thought grammar schools should be abolished. The last time we did, in 1977, nearly three-quarters disagreed. But teachers were asked for their views on the Assisted Places Scheme and the results were almost as surprising.

Although teacher unions condemned the scheme almost unanimously when it was introduced, more than half of those surveyed – and nearly a quarter of the Labour supporters – now think it should either be kept at its existing level or expanded. Overall, 38 per cent think it should stay at its present size, 17 per cent want to see it grow and 40 per cent favour its abolition.

Even teachers whose children attend state schools are almost evenly divided about the scheme, with a slight majority pro-abolition.

Not surprisingly, it is less popular in the secondary schools which are in competition with Assisted Places schools and most disliked by secondary heads, 77 per cent of whom think it should be abolished.

Among Labour voters, nearly three-quarters want to see the scheme abolished but 23 per cent think it should be kept or expanded. Only 12 per cent of Tory voters think it should end. SDP voters are almost evenly divided, while only a third of Liberals favour abolition.

Teachers' formerly overwhelming support for keeping the cane appears to be waning. But, even after the Strasbourg judgment and recent Government moves to give parents the right to opt their children out, more than half are still in favour.



● Most teachers favour Assisted Places, want to keep corporal punishment and support policies to combat racism

Meet the Averages...



More than four out of ten male teachers in England and Wales gaze across the breakfast table at another teacher. The TES survey found that 72 per cent of teachers are married and a quarter of them are married to another teacher. But only 14 per cent of women teachers share their lives with another teacher, compared with 44 per cent of the men.

They must have some ideological disputes over the muel. Women teachers are more likely to think of themselves as Conservative, keener on the Assisted Places Scheme and more anxious to do away with the cane than their male colleagues.

And they are also likely to work in different sectors of education. Women make up four-fifths of the staff of primary schools but just under half of the secondary teachers.

It is not surprising that teachers are worried about pay: they have a lot of commitments to meet. More than half (56 per cent) have a mortgage compared with a third of households in the latest General Household Survey. (A further 27 per cent own their flat or house outright.) 85 per cent own their own car. And nearly a quarter took three holidays last year with 28 per cent of the sample paying more than £500 for their main holiday.

Reading and gardening have overtaken theatre as teachers' favourite pastimes, claimed by 54 and 47 per cent respectively. About a third are now regular

theatre-goers, with music and watching television close behind. Just over a fifth of all primary teachers do needlework.

Badminton, their favourite sport in 1977, has been just pipped to the post by swimming this time. Squash and tennis tie for third place in their league of popular sports. Only 4 per cent play football and 3 per cent ski.

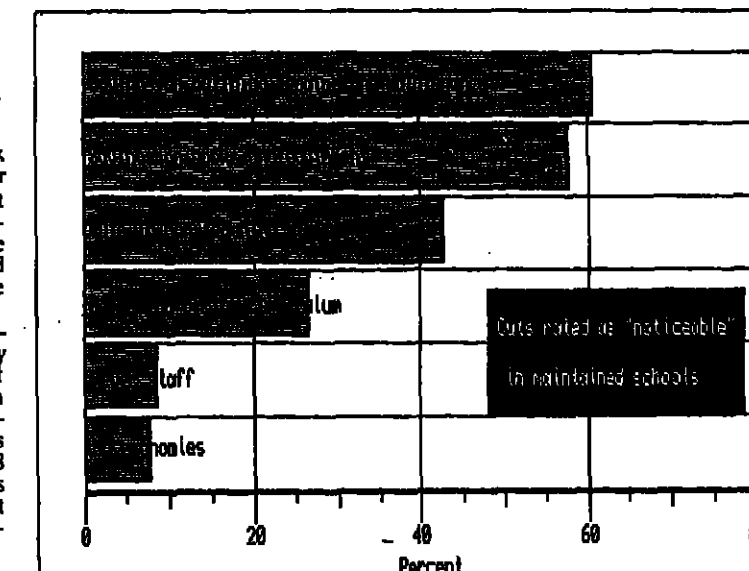
Whether through choice or necessity, teachers appear to be keen on doing their own household improvements. One third do "a fair amount" of DIY and a further 28 per cent do it "to a considerable degree".

The biggest number of teachers in the sample were aged between 25 and 44. Thirty-eight per cent of the total but children aged between 5 and 15.

And where did they send them to school? One in eight teachers in maintained primary schools and one in nine in state secondaries sent their children to independent schools – a higher proportion than in the population at large but not, perhaps, enough to convolute a vote of no confidence in the state sector.

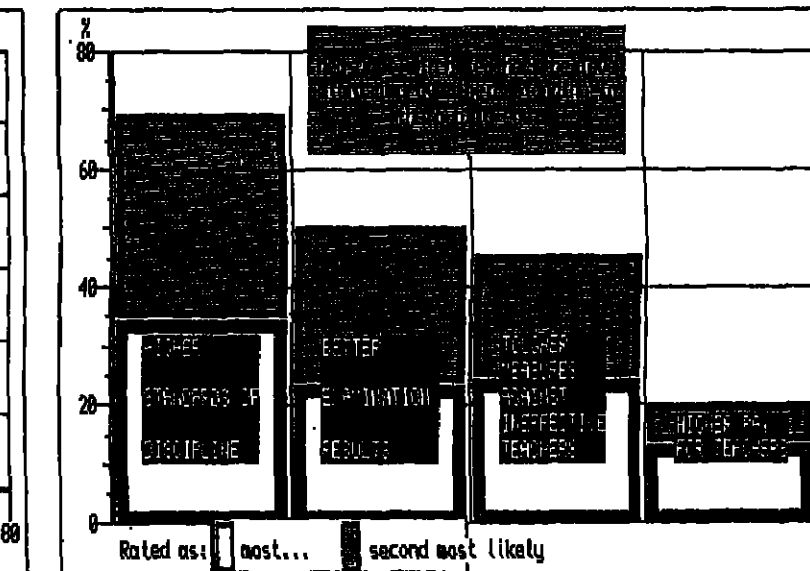
A high proportion of teachers have money put aside for a rainy day. Four in ten have a deposit account at the bank, two in ten have an insurance-linked savings plan and one in ten have National Savings Certificates. Six per cent have unit trust holdings and eight per cent have other stocks and shares.

Still conservative on some key issues



Tasty buildings and lack of books and equipment are the cuts that affect most teachers. Shortage of books and equipment is seen as a much bigger problem in secondary schools, where two-thirds of teachers had felt its effect. And far more secondary teachers felt the curriculum in their school had been narrowed by the cuts: 37 per cent, compared with only 18 per cent in primary schools.

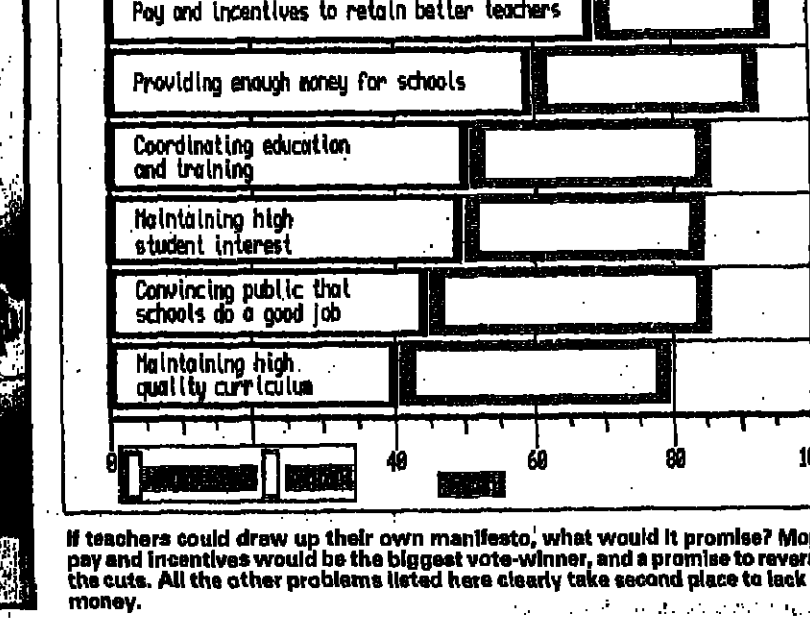
Teachers' formerly overwhelming support for keeping the cane appears to be waning. But, even after the Strasbourg judgment and recent Government moves to give parents the right to opt their children out, more than half are still in favour.



The sad picture of what teachers think the public wants from them: tougher discipline most of all, with better exam results and sterner measures to weed out the incompetent tying for second place. Well over half recognize that higher pay – their own deepest preoccupation – would do nothing for their public image.

Asked if corporal punishment should be abolished in all schools, 36 per cent agreed and 52 per cent disagreed. Last year, 29 per cent were in favour of abolition and 62 per cent against.

Overall, the differences between teachers in primary and secondary schools were not large. Nor, contrary to popular belief, do teachers in independent schools show more enthusiasm.



If teachers could draw up their own manifesto, what would it promise? More pay and incentives would be the biggest vote-winner, and a promise to reverse the cuts. All the other problems listed here clearly take second place to lack of money.

NEWS

NEWS

TES/NOP POLL

Still conservative on some of the key educational issues

Continued from page 15

ism for the cane than those in state schools.

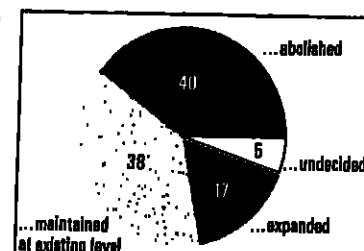
The single most striking variation is between north and south. While nearly half (45 per cent) of teachers in the South want to get rid of the cane, nearly two-thirds of teachers in the North and Midlands want to keep it. Strongest support for abolition is to be found among those most remote from the classroom - teacher training staff.

Two-thirds of all schoolteachers think every school should have a declared policy to combat racist atti-

tudes in the classroom and more than half (56 per cent) also support a policy to combat sexism.

Support for an anti-racist policy was less strong in independent than in state schools, although half of the staff in independent schools were still in favour. The difference between the two sectors was much more marked when it came to sexism, where independent school teachers were evenly divided.

Slightly more women than men teachers supported an anti-sexist policy but the difference was not as great as



Assisted Places: A clear majority of all teachers want to keep the scheme or expand it. Only in state secondary schools are a majority (51 per cent) in favour of abolition.

might have been expected. Support for an anti-sexist policy is running at about the same level as in last year's TES poll but support for an anti-racist policy is less strong, having dropped from 74 per cent of all primary and secondary teachers.

Teacher attitudes to racism, sexism and the cane

	All Teachers %	All Male Schoolteachers %	All Female Schoolteachers %	Teacher Trainers %	North & Midlands %	South %
Corporal punishment should be abolished in all schools.						
Agree	36	33	38	69	27	45
Disagree	62	67	60	15	74	41
Every school should have a declared policy to combat racist attitudes in the classroom.						
Agree	66	64	67	50	74	61
Disagree	13	16	12	27	9	17
Every school should have a declared policy to combat sexist attitudes in the classroom.						
Agree	56	54	57	39	66	51
Disagree	22	23	22	38	14	27

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Warning on more cuts further underlined by groups in HE

by Bert Lodge

The blunt warning last week from the Government's advisory bodies on higher education that any further economies would damage its quality of provision has been welcomed by HE groups.

The warning came in documents issued simultaneously by the University Grants Committee and, for the public sector, the National Advisory Body. They told Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, that instead of making cuts he should be spending more.

In a blueprint for the future of higher education, the University Grants Committee called for an increase of 40,000 students in higher education by the end of the 1980s, a truly level funding of recurrent grant and an immediate 25 per cent rise in equipment grant.

Sir Keith's present intentions to reduce spending could lead to some universities having to close, the committee warned.

NAB did not go so far as to argue for full-time student numbers to go up from 560,000 now to 600,000 by the end of the decade. But it did plead for the number of students presently in polytechnics and colleges to be maintained until the end of the century.

Attracting the warmest welcome was a joint statement from the UGC and the NAB in which they rephrased the famous principle of the 1963 Robbins Report that higher education should be available for all qualified to benefit from it.

The statement recommends replacing "qualified to benefit" with "able to benefit" thus opening the door to students who may not have three A levels nor even one but have shown evidence of their ability and keenness.

Ms Diana Warwick, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said she was delighted that after three years of vacillation and bowing to the Government, the UGC had finally decided to stand its ground and protest.

"The UGC has at last nailed its colours clearly to the mast," she added, a reference to the committee's acquiescence in 1981 to drastic cuts in university spending.

Lord Flowers, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals on which all 44 UK universities are represented, broadly welcomed the UGC document.

"I am particularly pleased to see the forthright manner in which the committee has told the Government it simply cannot continue to cut university costs and expect from the universities the results which it seems to want." He particularly commended the reference in the joint statement to the importance of continuing education.

This was also welcomed by Ms Jeanne Boocock, education secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education. "We've been saying for a long time adult and continuing education are a major responsibility for the higher education sector," she was pleased at the way the NAB committee highlighted a commitment to non-standard entry, a logical follow-on from the "able to benefit" principle recommended by both bodies.

Ms Boocock also backed the call from NAB for a common unit of resource for teaching purposes for both universities and public sector institutions. "The universities have always claimed their extra money was justified by their staff having to do research. But when you subtract that element there is still a discrepancy of about £300 a year per student between what universities get and what the polytechnics get."

She also welcomed the Secretary of State's

had been putting some money into adult training initiatives such as the UP the DES scheme for young workers' skills. Ms Boocock said: "But this report recognizes that initiatives must be underpinned by a major programme in the maintenance of the system. We hope that Sir Keith will respond to the challenge. We take the public sector would be very happy to take it on."

Miss Lesley Smith, vice-president for education of the National Union of Students, was disappointed that neither the UGC nor the NAB had acknowledged the vital importance of providing student services such as the facilities. But the NUS welcomed a call from NAB for financial support to increase access to higher education and to encourage student demand. The seven unions represented on the Central Council for Universities Teaching Staffs gave in their words "a reserved welcome" to documents. But the trade union support the extension of decent and accountability within the UGC and NAB and are therefore disappointed that the strategy came in favour of the status quo.

Mr Alistair Macrae, secretary of the trade union side of the council, said: "The trade unions believe it is significant that two committees appointed by the Secretary of State have - after a long enquiry - completely rejected his policies. Sir Keith should now either abandon his policy or his job."

Similar sentiments were echoed by Mr Giles Radice, Labour education spokesman. "As Sir Keith has these two bodies to report to him, he should now accept their advice and abandon his short-sighted and disastrous policy of contraction and higher education available to all who are able to benefit from it."

In addition to wanting more students, more money for equipment, truly level funding the UGC requires there should be a minimum recruitment of 3.5 per cent per year the total number of academic appointments a year.

Recruitment could also be stimulated by the universities' primary retirement scheme and the council would like to receive more aid from the Government so that it can reimburse universities with 50 per cent of their costs of this scheme.

At the same time universities should be able to sack lecturers for "being adequately to perform the duties of the post."

But the current probation period of three years is too short and is recommended that it be extended to five years.

The NAB report asserts the fact that by the end of the century financial year the polytechnics will have taken in more than 25 per cent extra students with virtually no change in resources. They now cater for more than 400,000 students, half of them in higher education. More than half are on full-time or sandwich courses.

If the Government was serious about maintaining access to higher education, improving efficiency and producing more science, engineering and technology graduates, then expenditure had to increase over the next three years.

A strategy for higher education for the 1990s - the University Grants Committee's advice. HMSO £2.50. A strategy for higher education for the 1990s and beyond. NAB, 10 Tottenham Court Rd, London W1P 0LP.

Susannah Kirkman reports on the Government's 5-16 curriculum discussion paper.

Sir Keith selects his ideal menu

The Government has launched a new stage in its plans for the school curriculum with the publication last week of a discussion paper outlining ministers' views on the 5 to 16 curriculum.

English, including English literature, craft, design and technology, and maths should be compulsory for all pupils, suggest Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, and Mr Nicholas Edwards the Welsh Secretary, in the discussion paper. There should also be a core curriculum for years one to three which includes science, the humanities and domestic science.

All children should study physics, chemistry and biology for at least three years and should not be allowed to drop science after the third year. Games should only be compulsory until the fourth year.

In modern languages, the most able pupils should study one language for five years and a second one for at least two, while the less able might not take a language at all.

Music, art and drama should also be available for all pupils, but children do not have to study all of them through-

out their school careers. The document allots a low priority to the humanities, proposing that either history or geography will have to be dropped after the third year.

The choice of options for fourth and fifth-year pupils should be restricted so that it only takes up 15 per cent of their timetables, say the ministers. This would allow pupils to follow a broader curriculum.

Although children should study "the principles underlying a free society", peace studies should not have an independent place in the curriculum, but "arise naturally in various parts of the curriculum", says the document.

Sir Keith recognizes the constraints of time on the curriculum and proposes that the number of periods allocated to compulsory subjects should be reduced and "compensated" through extra homework. The "clutter" of irrelevant or outdated material should be removed to make way for new skills such as computing.

The Education Secretary also emphasizes the socializing function of schools at all levels. The opportunity

to develop personal qualities and "desirable modes of behaviour" as well as the chance to become "familiar with the broadly shared values of our society" should be offered by all schools, Sir Keith says.

And the object of the primary-school curriculum should be to help pupils to "learn to understand themselves, their relationships with others and the world around them... and develop those personal qualities and attitudes which... provide a sound foundation for what follows."

Schools should stimulate the curiosity of primary pupils by providing a range of aesthetic activities, as well as introducing them to science and computers. But the main emphasis should be on teaching the basic skills of language and maths, according to the document.

Sir Keith's concern with providing practical skills is also shown in the aim to introduce some experience of design and technology into the craft syllabus and to give children "some insights into the adult world, including how people earn their living."



Sir Keith Joseph

Unions anger at time scale

Teaching unions are very concerned that they only have until the end of October to comment on the curriculum proposals.

Mr Peter Smith, of AMMA, said: "The Government can't on the one hand be attacking unions for their lack of consultation and then allow them totally inadequate time to take part in consultation."

He described the discussion paper as "an unargued initiative; a bland digest of what is generally done in schools."

Mr Joe Boone, of the NAS/UNVT, said his union welcomed some of the objectives of the curriculum proposals, but did not see how they could be achieved without increased resources.

The Government is trying to impose a limited curriculum from the centre, said Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers. He issued a blanket condemnation of the discussion papers on the curriculum and on teacher numbers (see page 10), and the Green Paper, *Parental Influence in Schools*, (page 5).

The others, due out before the end of the year, include:

- HMI discussion papers on: the primary curriculum, the 11 to 16 curriculum, objectives in English;
- policy statements on science and foreign languages;
- a statement of objectives for maths based on Cockcroft;
- a discussion paper on "breadth, balance, relevance and differentiation" in the 11 to 16 curriculum for local authority associations; and
- a Government paper drawing conclusions from replies to Circular 8/83 on L.E.N. curriculum policies.

Countdown to curriculum change

The sequence of events leading to the publication of the discussion document:

October 1976: Labour Prime Minister James Callaghan makes Ruskin College speech to launch Great Debate.

November 1977: Government asks local authorities for their curriculum policies and practices in Circular 14/77.

May 1979: Conservative Government takes office.

November 1979: Report on local curriculum policies based on replies to Circular 14/77 says Government will seek a consensus for a national curriculum framework.

February 1980: Government's

"Framework for the Curriculum" sets out education ministers' views on what should be the essential elements of every pupil's education. It proposes minimum times for maths, English, science and languages.

March 1981: Government publishes its "recommended approach" to a broad and largely common curriculum. Minimum periods are dropped.

October 1981: Local authorities asked to review their curriculum policies in

the light of government guidance published in "The School Curriculum" (Circular 6/81).

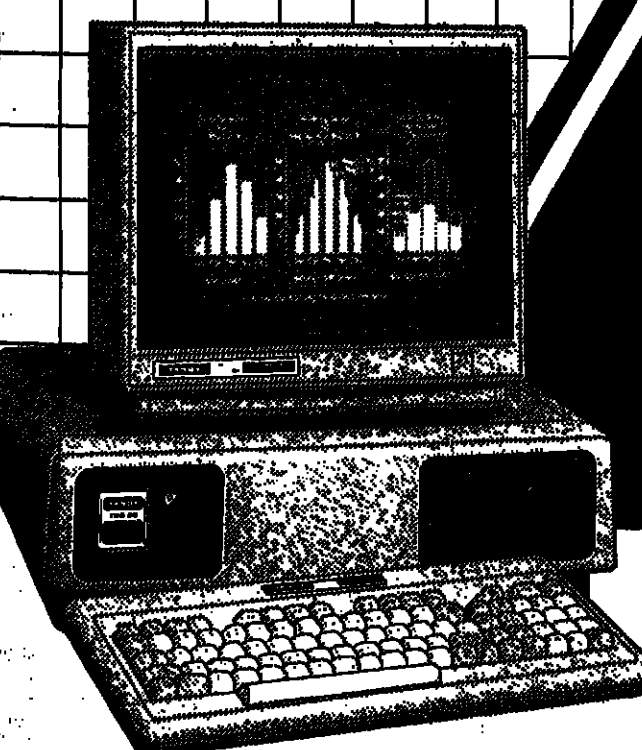
October 1983: Circular 8/83 asks authorities for progress report on their review of school curriculum policy.

January 1984: Sir Keith Joseph's speech to the North of England Conference refers to need to give explicit definition to "the objectives of each phase and of each subject area of the curriculum, of what in each needs to be

learned by all pupils and of what should additionally be attempted by some."

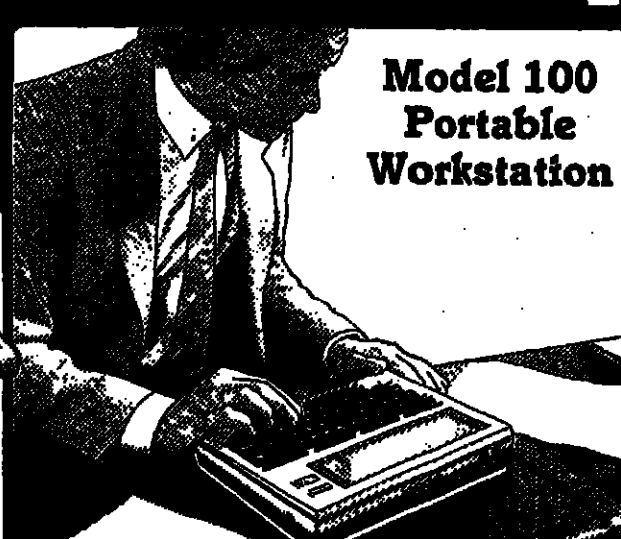
July 1984: In a speech to the Council of Local Education Authorities' Conference in Newcastle, Sir Keith outlines list of forthcoming curricular discussion papers, reports, government statements and circulars, including the new discussion paper on the 3-16 curriculum.

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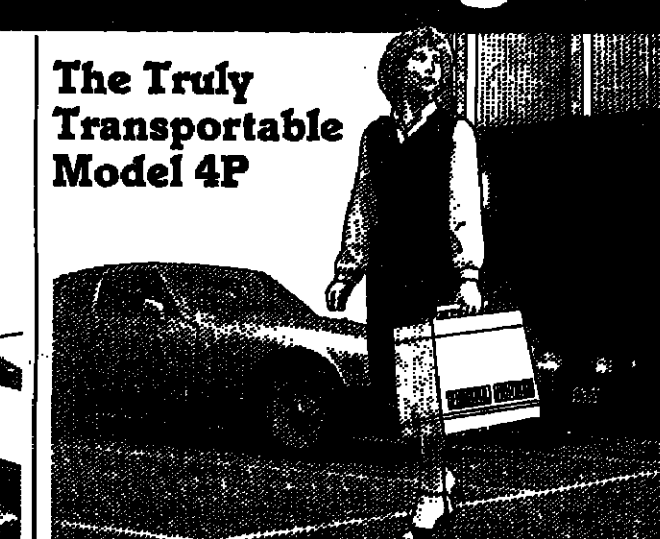
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Rolle needs to improve PGCE

The Rolle teacher training college at Exmouth, Devon needs to improve its postgraduate certificate course, says HM Inspectorate.

Its report says the present level of training on that course is "barely adequate" as a preparation for primary teachers.

Rolle is in a period of transition and is reviewing its postgraduate course and introducing a new degree course. The BEd students - 68 last year - are

provided with appropriate training, says the report, which finds a reasonable development of teaching skills, but questions whether some of the main subject teaching is adequate preparation for classroom teaching.

In the areas of special needs training and training for a multicultural society, the inspectors suggest that they should not be left so late on in the course. The college has 527 full-time stu-

dents, of whom 320 are doing initial teacher training and 207 are reading for a BA degree in combined studies. In-service training courses are also provided.

There are plans for a new BEd degree in 1984 and a new BA degree, upgraded to honours in 1985. The changes in courses are expected to remove the weaknesses that now exist - such as the lack of coherence on some subject courses and the lack of school

practice in the fourth year.

Splitting classes so that BEd and BA students are no longer taught together is expected to improve the professional relevance of the main subject studies.

The report acknowledges that a considerable amount has been achieved on courses over the past 18 months. Tutors are being encouraged to gain further teaching experience in schools. The postgraduate course is being reviewed.

HMI reports

HMI reports are available by charge from the Department of Education and Science, Publications and Information Centre, Honeywell Lane, 5 more, Middlesex HA7 1AZ, available from L.E.S.

schools and liaise with education officers.

In addition, in-service work which included an exploration of cultural and social background, would be useful, says report.

Throughout West Sussex, these found, children of travellers are accepted. Local communities, the hostile to the development of sites at the outset, are now accept them and the families there.

Teachers' expectations of children are often high, says the report, and the pupils' progress is impressive. But the report acknowledges that while most schools are beginning to draw on the experiences of these children, more needs to be done to help them to feel accepted.

The survey concludes that if good relationships are to be established sites make it possible for children to stay longer in an area. This enables children to improve attendance, with consequent educational benefits.

That teacher could then encourage the development of pre-school education with parents; promote adult literacy classes; coordinate records and assistance when children change

families. The attendance rate was 72.6 per cent, which though low by normal standards, was much higher than has been found in similar surveys by HMI.

One concern expressed in the report is the practice, found only in the central part of the county, of placing a high proportion of travellers' children in special schools.

It suggests the most reliable way of assessing children who have missed out on schooling is to observe their progress in normal schools.

The presence of travellers' children does not appear to have caused great problems in schools, but the survey suggests there should be greater co-ordination and the development of a published overall policy for the education of such children.

One solution might be the designation of an advisory teacher, perhaps attached to the peripatetic remedial teaching service.

That teacher could then encourage the development of pre-school education with parents; promote adult literacy classes; coordinate records and assistance when children change

Site gypsy children do better

Children from travellers' families settled on official camping sites tend to do better at school and attend more regularly.

An HMI survey of the education of children from gypsy, fairground and circus families in West Sussex found better school attendance and wider range of abilities than in similar surveys conducted elsewhere.

In West Sussex most traveller families live on the 12 official sites, compared with a national picture of only half the 9,000 traveller caravans doing so.

Inspectors visited 32 schools with a total of 124 children from travellers'



Young travellers... permanent caravan sites help their progress at school

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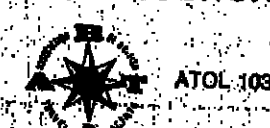
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Poly is switched on to computers policy

Oxford Polytechnic has made major strides in providing computing services, says the latest in a series of HMI reports exploring the impact of computers in schools and colleges.

Since 1979, the polytechnic has spent £650,000 on computing equipment which provides a central service for the college.

The system is based on five PRIME computers with a network of four Apollo graphics systems. In a college with a 1982-83 intake of 4,550 students, there are about 120 terminals available for student use.

The survey found the use of the equipment varied greatly between faculties and suggests the polytechnic's computer services committee should be reorganized to make it "more of a driving force". At the moment there is no formal liaison between the committee

and the major academic committees. Strategic or policy issues are seldom discussed by the putting services committee.

An overall policy for the computing facilities needs to be developed, says the report, which suggests the committee could take a greater role in planning, directing, monitoring computer use.

Computing use is high in departments such as mathematics, engineering and construction, but low in education, town planning and architecture faculties.

To provide realistic support educational computer packages, better programming support and development of a small systems support unit at the polytechnic could add to support staff to the computer centre.

Praise for bright primary

The high standards being achieved at Richard Lee Infants' School in Coventry are commended by HMI. It says teachers have brightened drab surroundings by using displays of children's work and classroom walls are filled with well-mounted displays.

Children work in an atmosphere that is happy and "conducive to sustained work and discipline".

The school has a part-time teacher

for those children whose first language is not English. (There are 13 children from Asian backgrounds out of 161).

The report does suggest giving able children different kinds of challenge, such as problem solving and hand calculators. The school will benefit from more use of microcomputers, it adds.

Anti-racist training call

Teachers should be trained to fight racism, the National Association for Multiracial Education says in a document published this week.

Everyone involved in teacher education should adopt a clear and positive anti-racist policy the statement says. NAME rejects the notion that a small nucleus of specialists should be responsible for helping teachers to combat racism. Instead, there should be "a comprehensive programme of staff development to promote understanding and acceptance of the realities of cultural diversity and structural racism."

The association also calls for colleges to recruit more black students; for exam boards and validating bodies to insist on anti-racist perspectives as a condition of accepting courses; for more money for new materials and books and for the right to in-service



Racism: every teacher's challenge

training on anti-racism. The statement on Teacher Education urges teacher trainers to recognize pressing need for changes in the courses to meet the needs of a multicultural society. "If ignored, the need will permanently endanger the prospects of achieving a just and vibrant multiracial society in Britain."

Heads seek large rise in redundancy payments

by Richard Garner

Headteachers are calling on the Government to introduce new legislation which would give them massive increases in redundancy or unfair dismissal payments.

The 23,500-strong National Association of Head Teachers has written to Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, asking him to review legislation which sets a limit on redundancy payments.

The NAHT's demand is in response to Mr King's annual review of the redundancy pay limits. At present the maximum anyone can receive is based on the assumption that they earn no more than £145 a week.

The move is timed to coincide with the annual review - but comes at a time when teachers fear the threat of compulsory redundancy may grow because of the impact Government rate-capping legislation may have on education spending.

In his letter to Mr King, Mr David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, says that redundancy payments should be made on the basis of people's actual earnings.

Mr Hart tells Mr King that heads may be in receipt of more than £20,000 a year - but still only receive redundancy or unfair dismissal payments as if they were earning £145 a week.

He adds that the limits "bear no relation whatsoever to my members' earnings". At present the maximum awards vary from £7,500 to £22,000.

Mr Hart states that "it is immediately apparent that all the above limits are

highly prejudicial to higher paid employees such as my members". "Not one of the limits would amply compensate a head made redundant, unfairly dismissed or subject to discrimination," he adds.

He says the NAHT has long felt "all limits maxima should be abandoned and the redundancy terms, basic awards, additional awards, compensatory awards and compensation in general should be based on actual earnings."

Leaders of the teachers' unions have been traditionally reluctant to press for improvements in redundancy payments as a priority because of their implacable opposition to compulsory redundancy.

Voluntary Service Overseas is looking for about 60 trained and experienced teachers to fill secondary, tertiary, and primary teacher-training posts in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean.

The teachers, who should be aged between 20 and 65, are to go overseas in January and February.

The posts are primarily for teachers of English, modern languages, maths and science plus some vacancies for teachers of accounts, secretarial skills, home economics and the mentally handicapped.

One of the vacancies is for a combined English language and maths teacher in a secondary school in the Solomon Islands.

Teachers are also needed to work in the Colleges of National Education for Primary Teachers in Tanzania. English teachers will be involved in language teaching to both in-service and pre-service primary teacher trainees.

In Malaysia, two experienced teachers of the mentally handicapped are needed to teach in school, to train unqualified staff and to assist in the general running of two residential centres for the handicapped.

Volunteers should be without dependants (though married couples can be posted if both serve as volunteers) and available for two years. Further details from: The Enquiries Unit, VSO, 9 Belgrave Square, London SW1. Tel: 01-235 5191.

VSO offers two year stints for volunteers

Third World teachers sought

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Adriana Caudrey reports from the 'Girl Friendly Schooling Conference' in Manchester

Shaping up to classroom equality

Teachers must be taught to recognize and overcome their preconceptions about girls' educational requirements and women's role in society.

That was one clear message to come out of a major national conference on girls' schooling, launched by the Equal Opportunities Commission, in Manchester, last week.

Researchers and academics – among whom women outnumbered men five to one at the conference – pointed out that sexual stereotyping in schools, and society in general, inhibits girls in their choice of subjects.

School curricula must be reformed to make science and technology more amenable to girls. Currently girls are discouraged from taking up these subjects, because they are not taught in a way that is geared to their interests.

Another disadvantage for aspiring girl scientists and technologists is lack of access to school computers and specialist equipment, because boys are allowed to monopolize these.

Academics who have undertaken large-scale research projects in schools conclude that many teachers have limited expectations of girl pupils, and stereotyped views of women's place in society.

Margaret Spear of the Open University's Institute of Technology, found that 49 per cent of teachers she questioned considered technical subjects very important for boys, while only 24 per cent considered them so for girls. They viewed qualifications in technical subjects as more important for boys' futures, than for girls.

Just over half – 51 per cent – thought girls as good as men at complicated technical matters. And 42 per cent believed that a woman's career was not



Science subjects are not being taught in a way that is geared to girls' interests.

as important as a man's.

As many as 71 per cent believed that women should only have children if they are prepared to give up their jobs until after the children are old enough to go to school.

Ms Spear told the conference: "We have to try to make teachers aware of what their beliefs are if these findings are a true reflection."

Barry Everley of the Department of Education, Sheffield Polytechnic, told the conference of initiatives at his department to make trainee and fully-fledged teachers aware of "the existence of practices and procedures which militate against equality of opportunity for boys and girls to develop their talents more fully."

Studies into sexist attitudes, and reasons why boys and girls opt for different subject areas, are a compulsory part of BEd degrees, PGCEs (Post Graduate Certificate in Educa-

tion), and craft design and technology certificates at Sheffield Polytechnic. Dr Jan Harding of the Centre for Science and Maths Education at Chelsea College, said that if teachers are to teach science in an egalitarian way, they must recognize that boys and girls are "differently linked to the world". She said that one of the major findings of the well known GIST (Girls into Science and Technology) project, was that for chemistry to appeal to girls it should be taught within a social context, not merely as a set of abstract principles.

Dr Judith Whyte, one of the conference organizers, and a supervisor on the GIST project said that "girl friendly" science tended to be taught in schools where the ethos was also "girl friendly". Such schools were usually progressive, and had already adopted other enlightened policies, including anti-racism.

Schemes to encourage girls into the sciences were more successful when teachers provided the initiative, she said.

Pam Robinson and Alan Smithers of the Department of Education, Manchester University, told the conference that the introduction of mixed A level courses, combining science and maths with non-scientific subjects, had attracted a higher proportion of girls into the sciences. Of sixth form girls, 46.2 per cent were studying at least one science or maths subject at the last national count.

However, 42 per cent of boys on mixed subject courses were studying two sciences, with one non-science subject, compared with only 22.2 per cent of girls.

Their most disturbing finding was that only 6.8 per cent of girls doing mixed studies took physics. "Why physics should once again emerge as the least 'girl friendly' science remains a matter for further study and speculation," said Mr Smithers and Ms Robinson.

The conference was told that computers are usually in science and maths departments, which tend to be male preserves. Male teachers have charge of the equipment, and allow boy pupils to hog it.

Robin Ward, an equal opportunities commission project director in the technology unit at Croydon, said the local authority had taken positive steps to ensure that girls have access to computers.

A boy is only allowed to attend summer computer courses if accompanied by a girl. Many schools in the authority have girls-only days for computer use.

A package of reforms to turn the sexist tide

Educational bodies are to be given a package of proposed reforms aimed at creating sexual equality in school systems.

Organizers of the "Girl Friendly Schooling" conference are making recommendations for changes in Department of Education and Science local education authorities, the Equal Opportunities Commission and training bodies. These were based on themes raised during the conference and follow-up discussions.

The organizing committee are asking the DES to ask for:

- more initiatives in the field of computing, especially in primary schools;
- exam papers to be monitored for sexist bias in their content;
- governing bodies in schools to be required to appoint equal numbers of men and women.

They are asking local education authorities to:

- appoint advisory staff with responsibility for equal opportunities, a would look into schools' attitudes and interviewing practices.

The EOC is being urged to:

- coordinate and part-hat a "friendly" schooling body;
- take more notice of non-racism issues, including work with girls in ethnic minorities; and
- work with parent organizations.

Marked drift from arts to science

Rise in number of qualified leavers

The number of teenagers leaving school with qualifications continues to rise, according to the latest government figures.

But the trend away from arts subjects towards maths, physics and chemistry is becoming more marked.

The statistics are contained in the 1982 school-leaver report issued last week by the Department of Education and Science. The breakdown, giving regional, sex and subject variations in the teenagers' exam results, with their destinations after leaving school, is late in being published and will be followed next month by a briefing paper with the background of both 1982 and 1983 leavers.

The report shows 17 per cent of the leavers had at least one A level pass, compared with 15.5 per cent in 1973/4 – the most appropriate comparable year in view of the raising of the school leaving age in 1972.

The proportion with five or more higher grade O level or CSE results rose from 8.8 per cent to 10.1 per cent over the same period and those with between one and four higher grade O level or CSE passes went from 24.5 per cent to 26.7 per cent, although this was only 0.1 above 1980/1.

Only 10.6 per cent of school-leavers left without any GCE or CSE qualifications – down from 20.4 per cent in 1973/4.

But when exam success is broken down by subject and sex over five years some interesting fluctuations emerge. At A level, fewer boys passed in almost every subject apart from physics, chemistry and maths, while the numbers of girls gaining passes has increased without exception.

For instance, in English literature, 24.5 per cent fewer boys gained passes in 1982 than in 1977, falling from 14,614 to 11,027. But girls gaining passes in that subject rose slightly.

The explanation, say Department statisticians, is the general trend towards more teenagers taking science subjects and fewer following arts

More girls pass arts subjects, but because far more girls now take levels in the first place. The proportion of girls taking science subjects, compared with arts, is now greater. For instance, in 1977, 10,876 passed maths, one third of numbers – 29,831 – which took English literature.

In 1982, the numbers passing had risen by 67.6 per cent to 142, although in English it went up by 8.8 per cent to 32,458.

A similar trend, towards more taking science subjects, is shown in CSE and O level. In physics, 40 per cent more girls passed at O level in 1977 and 58 per cent more in 1982.

A DES spokesman said: "It is more girls relative to boys are taking levels and this increase is largely in sciences. In fact, the propensity of girls to take A levels has almost caught up with boys. It was significantly lower years ago."

However, despite the trend towards A level success for girls, more boys go to university. The figures, which had been extrapolated from a sample one-tenth of the school-leaver population, show around 26,000 boys going to university compared with 18,000 girls.

Statistics of Education, School Leavers, CSE and GCE 1982, available from DES, Statistics Branch, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1.



Seventeen per cent of leavers had...

Jane Pickard meets Carol Dweck, a Harvard professor who believes that a child's 'fatalism quotient' can be a more accurate predictor of success or failure than IQ.

The power of negative thinking

Carol Dweck: "Children learn best from slightly difficult tasks which they have to struggle through."



When Carol Dweck was at school in mid-1950s America, she knew she was at the top of the class. Nevertheless, when put to the test, she would be tempted to back off, fearing failure. "Don't let yourself be pushed to the limits," she would think to herself.

And that, according to Carol – now Professor Dweck, of Harvard University – is precisely what thousands of bright girls think when presented with a stiff challenge.

Her theories about what she calls "learned helplessness" and children's ideas of their own intelligence were the subject of this year's annual IBM/North Westminster Inner-City Lecture at North Westminster Community School last week.

She is rapidly building up a body of evidence which shows that success or failure can depend almost entirely on the degree of fatalism people have about their own performance.

With her team of student researchers, she had given children tests to discover their approach to tackling obstacles, meeting challenges and leaping over new hurdles. And she maintains that after 15 years, she has never found success in this area to be related to intellectual ability.

More important is children's view of their own intelligence. After tests on children of different ages, backgrounds and ability, in classrooms and in isolation, two attitudes have emerged.

The first, what Professor Dweck calls the "Entity Theory", is held by children who believe IQ is a fixed trait. They think a person is born "smart" or "stupid" and can do absolutely nothing about it. So there is not a lot of point in trying.

If children with this view see themselves as unintelligent, this is clearly a serious problem. But for those who think they are smart, it can be just as harmful.

They see the classroom as an arena for competition in which their ability is judged. If they fail, this spells disaster. So they stick to what they know they can achieve – and avoid new challenges.

The second prevailing attitude among school children is what Professor Dweck labels the "incremental theory". This means that they believe that intelligence increases with learning and effort. "These children, instead of being orientated towards proving themselves, are orientated towards improving themselves," she says.

"They rapidly see what will enable them to master something they haven't been able to do before. Whether they think they will succeed or not, they take on new challenges, so it's almost as though confidence doesn't matter to them," she adds. "Effort becomes an investment rather than a risk."

Tests have shown that boys and girls are equally divided between the two views of ability. But because girls seem to lack confidence, those with the "entity" view are at a huge disadvantage, especially the brighter girls.

In one study, a class was set programmed learning booklets to work through, some with a difficult chapter

in the middle and some without. Those without the extra chapter, performed as expected, much according to ability. But in the group with the difficult chapter, the girls of high ability fell back, behind even the less able girls.

"The staggering thing was that the difficulty didn't just wipe out the difference between able and less able girls – it actually reversed it," said Professor Dweck. "I think the brighter girls simply panicked because their abilities were called into question."

If their abilities are challenged later in life, Professor Dweck thinks they have already developed a pattern of achievement-related beliefs that makes them poorly equipped to cope with it. This can lead to what she calls "learned helplessness" in the face of new situations.

Her latest work on this theory, carried out this year, also shows that children's attitudes change as they grow older. At infant school age, they seem to have a natural incremental

theory. They are optimistic. "They seem to think they will get more clever as they get older. If they learn more and work hard, they see themselves as top of the class with a fairly bright future."

Around seven or eight-year-old, this view starts to give way to a more sophisticated comparison with other children and they start developing the idea of fixed attitudes.

"They then start worrying that they are not as bright as they thought and that the future will bring decline. At this point, some children seem to retain an incremental attitude, while others adapt to an entity view... we don't yet know why."

One explanation, of course, could be the view being put across by teachers. But Professor Dweck does not want to place the entire burden of responsibility on teachers' shoulders.

There are other, equally important factors, she believes, such as parental labelling of children's characteristics.

Teachers' ideas and the way they organize the class, however, must be significant.

She attended a highly traditional American school where "smarts" and "thicks" were identified by the position in which they sat in the classroom. This sort of labelling is, of course, very much discredited now. But she believes that what has replaced it is just as ineffective in tackling the "clever girl" syndrome.

"The idea is to try to fool children into thinking that none is different from anyone else and everyone is brilliant in order to build confidence. So differences are masked. Easy work is given and every little attempt is lavishly praised."

"But our researches have shown that continuous unadulterated praise discourages the evaluator and sometimes undermines the confidence of the child because they become suspicious," she said.

"It doesn't help a child to tackle a difficult task if they succeed consistently on an easy one. It doesn't teach them to persist in the face of obstacles if obstacles are always eliminated from the regime. Knowing they can cope with difficulties is what makes children seek challenges and overcome further problems."

The problem for the clever girls is that they have swarmed through primary school, without challenges and problems, they see themselves as "clever" but have never learnt to put that to the test. They set high standards for themselves and become upset and panicky if they can't meet those standards.

She believes that teaching methods should be adapted to take account of children's views of intelligence. And when children start to become curious about the differences between them at junior school age, she thinks it is the job of the teacher to put them in perspective, explaining that everyone can improve themselves.

"I think what children learn best from are slightly difficult tasks which they have to struggle through. They do need challenges and obstacles to bring them greater confidence."

At the moment, many engineering and scientific companies, particularly in electronics, are crying out for girls to fill the good jobs that are vacant.

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Will her choice of subjects cook her goose?

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MSC ordered to go ahead with NAFE spending

The Government this week ordered the Manpower Services Commission to go ahead with spending the local authority further education money it is transferring to their control. It has told the commissioners that they - and not the local authorities - must decide exactly how to spend it.

The Commission's officials had been expecting the instruction to come in the form of a statutory directive because they had refused to proceed without local authority cooperation. Instead, it arrived in a letter from the Employment Secretary just in time for the commissioners' meeting yesterday.

The letter says their corporate plan must provide for the spending of the money, which has already been deducted from the authorities' 1985/86 estimated grant.

The Employment Secretary says: "I wish to make it clear that the draft plan will need to include plans for expenditure on work-related non-advanced further education (NAFE) which take account of the increased resources which the Government has now made available to the Commission."

Speaking for the Education Secretary as well as himself, he says: "We will look to the Commission to determine how the money shall be spent. And he repeats the guidance already set out in the training White Paper, which foresees that 'the great bulk - though not necessarily all' the money would go to the colleges."

The Employment Secretary asks the Commission to take account of the local authorities' own plans for expenditure on NAFE to ensure reasonable continuity of provision.



Tom King

Mr Geoffrey Holland, the MSC's director, made special arrangements to rush out copies of the letter in time for the meeting. All other items were cleared from the agenda.

Commissioners were in some doubt about their constitutional position. "If the Secretary of State is clearly instructing us to take a particular course of action, regardless of our own views, and it turns out that this is invoking his statutory powers, that is one thing. But if he is simply saying he wants us to put it into the corporate plan, that is quite different because it is our plan and we decide what goes into it," said Mr Wilson Longden, the education service representative.

Mr John Pearman, AMA's education vice chairman speaking at the association's conference on Wednesday, urged the commissioners not to take any action for the time being. "The proposal cannot be implemented without the cooperation of the l.e.a.s., no matter how many directives are issued," he said.

Meanwhile, the education committee of the Association of County Councils was also meeting yesterday to consider its position following MSC officials' announcement of the intended allocations to each authority under the plan.

The committee was asked if it wanted to go on trying to persuade the Government to agree to the compromise arrangements it has turned down; whether to back the AMA in demanding an overall review of FE in place of the White Paper plan; or, at least, to advise its representatives on the inter-authority payment committee.

The latter course would mean, in effect, breaking away from the present refusal to cooperate. The committee would have to collect its figures next year on a different basis so as to provide the MSC with more relevant information than the statistics it has used so far for planning how to share out the funds.

Some committee members feared they might be under renewed pressure to surrender following a private meeting on Monday between Mr Philip Merridale, their chairman, and Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary.

Draft guidelines for the way the MSC would operate the scheme, prepared by the commission's NAFE unit, were also considered by yesterday's ACC meeting.

They indicate that the authorities will have to bid for the money for specific purposes, and bring the MSC into the planning of all their work-related courses in order to get any of it.

Edited by
Mark Jackson

YTS success earns careers officers reprieve

The local authority careers service this week celebrated its reprieve from the threat of disbandment - and lamented the way it had earned it.

The annual conference of the Institute of Careers Officers was told that the service's success in helping the Government to meet its Youth Training Scheme targets had persuaded ministers that there was no need to hand its job over to the Manpower Services Commission.

A year ago Mr Peter Morrison, employment junior minister, warned the conference that the Government wanted to see how the service handled the YTS before deciding what to do about its future.

Mr Don Hayden, the institute's retiring president, told the conference at Warwick University on Sunday that careers departments had been responsible for producing nine out of ten of the applicants for places. They had also enabled the Government to meet its pledge to offer a place to all unemployed 16-year-old school leavers.

He said: "Mr Morrison has announced that he sees no need to go ahead with a review of the service at present. We are glad of the reprieve, but it is a pity that the YTS is the only way we are measured."

Mr Barry Sheerman, the shadow training minister, in the opening speech to the conference, said that the careers service would need to look beyond the immediate perils and crises and help young people prepare for a very different future society.

"A return to the general economic growth of the 1960s in which there was a limited need for systematic and forward looking education and training is not possible... a successful

management of inevitable economic and turbulence in technology, a market demands a workforce of highly-trained and educated at all levels," he said.

Mr Sheerman described as "most wrong" the Government's view of market economy in which the pace of profit crowded out all other considerations, with low wages and expectations for young people a cowed workforce as economically well as morally wrong.

"We will not revive our economic future with a submissive workforce with a creative one," Mr Sheerman said. Labour saw an unbreakable link between training and education and that his own appointment to bring two together as a member of both education and the employment bench teams was an indication of its approach they would take in Government.

Some of the audience later told TES that Mr Sheerman's speech had done a good deal to raise their morale. Mr Hayden commented: "It did seem to be sensible and relevant rather than simply a political statement - perhaps the best we have had from a politician for a long time."



Peter Morrison

Schooling girls for the dole queue

by Diane Spencer

Girls are still being educated for unemployment or second class citizenship in a technological society, says a major report published this week by the Government-funded Women's National Commission.

Teachers must take note of women's commitment to paid employment, of the instability of modern marriage and of the greater convergence of men's and women's roles, it says.

The report, *The other half of our future*, is by the WNC's working group on training opportunities for women. It makes 12 proposals directed at the Government, local authorities, the Manpower Services Commission, parents, trade unions and women's organizations.

Launching the report, Mrs Saxon Spence, chairman of the working group, emphasized the importance of girls' learning how to use computers. "Dad goes out and buys a computer, he and his son then play with it and the girls in the family are allowed out. The same thing happens at school. We cannot afford to let that keep on happening. And teachers still have appalling discriminatory attitudes... it says."

The report points out that 15 times more men than women have had "hands on" experience of computers. It recommends that schools should encourage girls-only computer clubs and urges the Government to launch an adult computer literacy campaign, along lines similar to the successful adult literacy programme, with special emphasis on women.

Mrs Dillys Wood, secretary to the WNC, considered the report timely. The Government was already responding to pressure from women's groups, including the WNC and the Equal Opportunities Commission, and from "desperate" employers in high technology industries.

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, had told the WNC conference in March: "Britain cannot afford

the economic waste involved if we do not seize the opportunities offered by new jobs and new industries."

"The penny has dropped," Whitehall, Mrs Wood declared. To follow the report, the commission is now organizing a series of "training roadshows" to encourage schoolgirls and young mothers to consider careers in non-traditional fields.

The report criticizes the "bankrupt" male-dominated disciplines in arts and higher education which are "daunting the girls considering engineering or technology studies."

It is also concerned about the perpetuation of sex-stereotyping in sex-TVEI courses, which ought instead to be breaking this mould.

The report also recommends that schools and colleges should monitor the numbers of male/female entrants to further and higher education and in their chosen subjects.

● Teachers should beware the effect of the "hidden curriculum" on girls' subject choices, particularly in choosing options.

● Schools' prospectuses should set separate examination results for boys and girls.

● Careers staff must stress girls' access to nearly all types of employment, instead of pointing out difficulties which might discourage aspirations.

● Parents should give children a hearing if they want to study a non-traditional subject and fight the school for their right to do so if teachers are reluctant; and

● The MSC must ensure that YTS employers avoid segregating girls and boys into traditional occupations.

The report will be widely circulated among large companies, trade unions and local education authorities.

The other half of our future. Women's National Commission, Cabinet Office, Government Offices, Great George Street, London SW1 3QA.

Ministry bid to end 'short notice' school closures

by Biddy Passmore

Plans to close a school at the end of a summer term should be published no later than the previous autumn, the Department of Education has told local education authorities and governors of voluntary schools.

In a memorandum giving advice on school reorganization procedures, the Department makes it clear that this timetable, allowing for a decision by Easter, is the shortest ministers will normally accept. And where two or more schools are involved, a longer period is desirable and may be essential, it says.

Where proposals are made on a shorter timetable, implying less than a term between the decision and closure, the proposers will have to provide a

written justification for their timetable, it adds.

The Department's advice has been issued on the basis of four years' experience of handling the new arrangements introduced by the 1980 Education Act. It aims to avoid some of the difficulties which have arisen and caused substantial delays.

In addition to timing, the memorandum covers method of publication and content of the proposals, as well as guidance on consultation and the handling of objections. It reminds authorities and governors that Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, regards the adequacy of consultation as "a material factor" when considering proposals.



Norman Barr

Complaints to be probed

by Sarah Bayliss

Cornwall education authority will carry out a full inspection of the Alverton primary school in Penzance this term after a small group of parents complained to their MP about the school's headmistress.

Seven parents complained to Mr David Harris, Conservative MP for St Ives about a number of incidents including one where a pupil who suffered from bedwetting was told to wear talcum powder to cover the smell. Two mothers have since transferred their children to different schools in the town.

Mr Norman Barr, Cornwall's director of education, said this week that at a special meeting of the school's governors called to discuss the complaints, the head, Miss Mary Stevens, had proposed that the school should be inspected by the local authority. At the same meeting governors had agreed there had been a breakdown in communications with some parents.

Mr Harris said he believed the authority had acted "very properly" in dealing with the complaints. He added that the school appeared to be very popular with some parents who last week aired their views on BBC Radio Cornwall. Those parents plan to hold a meeting in defence of the head and in support of the school.

Tax guide on grants

The Consumers' Association has published an updated version of its guide, for parents on tax relief for contributions towards student grants.

The *Which? Government Kite Students* explains how the 'Government' system works, how tax relief can be obtained and how it affects grants and supplementary benefits. It costs £4.95 from the Consumers' Association, Castle mead, Garscayne Way, Hertford, SG14 1LH.

New support group for adult classes

by Diane Spencer

A new organization formed to defend adult education from further cuts was launched this week.

Called the Voluntary Adult Education Forum, it embraces 16 groups including the Pre-Retirement Association, the Open University, the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds and the Educational Centres Association.

The forum intends to be more than a pressure group. It will share information, establish a network with other voluntary groups and raise the level of public support for adult education.

Three events are already planned. A seminar on campaigning for adult education will be held in Fircroft College, Birmingham, on October 17. A workshop on voluntary/statutory partnership and another on one-parent families will follow.

Residential colleges will also be involved.

ACE backs parent power

by Mike Durham

The Advisory Centre for Education (ACE), which gives information to parents, has come out in favour of Sir Keith Joseph's proposals for more parent governors in schools.

In its response to the Green Paper 'Parental Involvement in Schools', ACE says the parental viewpoint needs "weighting" on governing bodies by giving parents a majority. ACE rejects the equal partnership proposed earlier in the Taylor Committee. Unlike teachers, l.e.a.s and community groups, they argue, parents do not speak for "strong, collective professional interests."

"Parents can only be sure of one thing in common - that they have children."

ACE says that electing more parents would "galvanize" school governing bodies and stimulate more communication between homes and school.

There would be little danger of "block voting" or canvassing by parents because not all parents think alike on educational issues.

The submission also suggests a pupil representative on each governing body as a token presence as pupil forums are developed.

FE advisers unite against cuts

Further education and post-16 advisers are set to launch a new "network" to exchange information and ideas, and to save their service from being cut yet again.

Mr Mick Farley, newly appointed adviser for Sheffield, and Mr John Blythe of Birmingham are inviting advisers and assistant education officers responsible for 16-19s to a meeting

in Birmingham on October 10, to discuss the idea.

They hope that the network will eventually include HMIs and that it will keep in close touch with the further education staff college, Cuscombe Lodge.

Details of the meeting are available from Mr Farley, City of Sheffield Education Department, Leopold Street, Sheffield S1 1RJ.

Four six-year olds writing independently on one BBC computer - with their Quinkey Keyboards.



A picture and words that say it all

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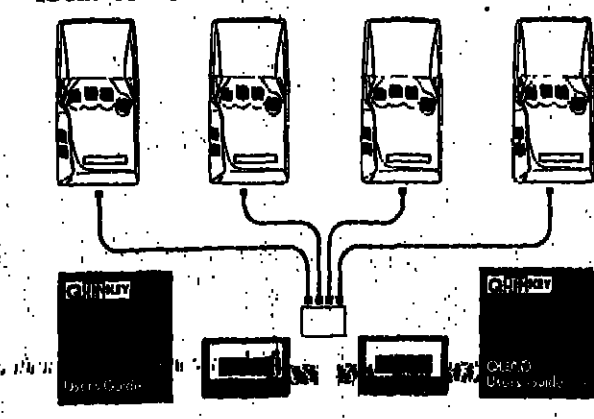
The use of the system produced tremendous motivation and the children's span of attention was far greater than when doing other tasks. The quantity of writing produced doubled, the improvement in spelling and punctuation was also commented upon. 39 Educational Computing

66...when schools in Newcastle tested them the results were impressive. (Initial M.E.P. regional trials are now complete, and as a result, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Education Authority is establishing Quinkey throughout the area.) Most children in the 6-8 year old range produced up to four times the amount of written material they usually did, and this was of a high standard. 39 Personal Computer News

66 I have been amazed by how quickly children have learnt to use Quinkey. I had my doubts about computers, but now I have nothing but praise... 39 Julie High, Deputy Head

66 Slow learners without the manual dexterity to write, quickly took to the keyboards and their handwriting improved alongside their "microwriting". Because children could immediately see what they had written, they became more aware of spelling and punctuation... 39 The Times Educational Supplement

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OVERSEAS

Turning a new face to ignorance and intolerance

ISRAEL

Howard Sharron on a new treatment for Down's children

How far do the distinctive facial characteristics of Down's Syndrome children inhibit their intellectual development?

In Israel over the last two years 60 children have undergone plastic surgery to normalize their appearance and overcome the handicaps caused by social stigmatization.

The highly controversial experimental project is being led by Professor Reuven Feuerstein of the Hadassah Wizo clinic in Jerusalem. He claims that despite advances in medical and psychological treatments, popular and professional prejudice about Down's Syndrome children, prompted largely by their looks, is causing many children to be tragically underestimated.

During the plastic surgery, which can take as little as one and a half hours, the surgeon corrects a child's slanting eyes by removing a surplus fold of skin, puts silicon implants in the nose to make a new bridge, raises the cheek bones and modifies the receding chin. The ears are also pinned back closer to the head. But the most difficult and important alteration is the trimming of the tongues.

Macroglossia, the outsized tongue characteristic of many Down's Syndrome children, is largely responsible

for their poor speech and several traits considered anti-social, such as drooling, untidy eating and leaving the mouth open. The poor speech and consequent poor social relationships, even between children and parents, can prevent the proper cognitive development of these children, Feuerstein says.

The programme has run into fierce opposition in Israel. Critics argue that it is wrong to subject children to physically painful and emotionally disturbing operations that are not medically necessary. Others claim it is morally dubious to change the looks of a Down's Syndrome child merely because of the ignorance and intolerance of society.

Feuerstein and his colleagues, Dr Ya'acov Rand and Dr Yael Mintzker, dismiss these claims as unrealistic. The slight physical pain a child experiences, and the very temporary regression or enuresis that might occur, they say, is nothing to the lifelong torture of being stigmatized as sub-human.

One of the most interesting findings to emerge from the follow-up study on the operations is the effect they have on parents. "No matter how much a parent loves their child the shock of having a Down's Syndrome child is very great, as is the subsequent anxiety they suffer from adverse public attention," says Feuerstein. "They tend to become passive about their children's conditions and accept the 'inevitability' of the effects of a congenital disorder."

But after the operation we have found that a motivation actively to

change and improve their children is reinforced or even created where it did not exist before. This is seen in their overall activities and demands for their children's placement in more heterogeneous classes; for intensive speech therapy, more medical treatment and advice about helping their child acquire the life-skills for a more independent existence.

The interim research report which has just been published and is based on questionnaires and interviews with 43 children and parents and 16 teachers, has found 98 per cent of the parents very or moderately satisfied with the operation. More than two thirds of the parents said that strangers stared at their children less and teachers reported less discrimination in class from other children. Teachers also noticed a growth in self-confidence and a decline in reluctance to speak in front of the class. The children also seemed to pay more attention to their clothes and hair in school.

An improvement in the intelligibility of speech was noted in 80 per cent of the sample and a growth of self-confidence in speech was reported by 70 per cent of the parents, an evaluation which had a correlation of between 50-80 per cent with teachers' estimates.

Following the operation parents ranked speech as their children's most serious problem whereas before it ranked only third. "Confrontation with improvement seems to emphasize the impairment in speech and make parents more demanding of speech therapy," says the report.



French youngsters on the verge of adulthood face a "change of deeds" national education policy next year.

Emphasis on job skills in £15bn education budget

FRANCE

Mary Follain on provision and priorities for 1985

France intends to spend nearly Fr185 billion (£15.6 billion) on education next year, despite a huge deficit and reductions in almost every other sector. That is an increase of 6 per cent on the 1984 provision which will probably be absorbed by inflation, but at least education has been spared the knife.

In the total budget of Fr995.2 billion announced last week, education expenditure is second only to defence. The deficit is expected to rise from an estimated Fr135 billion this year to just under Fr140 billion in 1985.

As announced on television by the Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius, special attention will be paid to job training, and the 1985 budget sets aside over Fr12.5 billion - Fr2.5 billion more than this year. M Fabius promised all school leavers under 21 that they would be offered if not a job, at least some form of training by the end of 1985.

M Jean-Pierre Chevènement, who succeeded M Alain Savary as education minister this summer, says that "the Education Ministry has an important contribution to make in vocational training. About three million people follow courses every year and the ministry must step standing on the sidelines". Some 725,000 young people will, it is hoped, benefit from the scheme.

M Chevènement has already listed his priorities. Although he notes that there is a "Chevènement doctrine" the emphasis in education policy has shifted from M Savary's of a more democratic education (accessible to all and caring for all) able in favour of a system geared to industry's needs and turn out skilled engineers and technicians which M Chevènement believes France must have if it is to be competitive with Japan.

A former minister of research and industry, M Chevènement put improvement of technical education and vocational training high on his "Education" list, he says, "must be the spearhead of the modernization of France. But the aim is to form more technicians but men and women who are fully conversant with their own country's language and history. And that means we must have a rate educational system."

Another priority is the improvement of primary school education. "Apprenticeship," says M Chevènement, "is the cent of children fail to master the skills by the time they leave primary school. France is already ahead of most countries in the provision of primary school places and now that the three-year-olds are being provided the aim will be to take in two to 2 1/2-year-olds."

Some 2,300 new teachers will be recruited, which is welcome news for teachers coping with classes of 30 more in secondary schools, and will be made to transfer teachers to areas which do not need them in order which do.

Science body for Colombo

A Sri Lanka Association for Science Education, on the lines of the British Association for Science Education, is to be set up; draft constitution has been prepared by a special committee, with the help of Mr Alan Cadogan of the University of Bristol. The Sri Lanka Association will be open to teachers and others interested in science education.

Textbook messages not received

HUNGARY

A special correspondent reports on concern at low standards of literacy

About one-third of Hungarian pupils in their final year of primary school, when they are 13 to 14 years old, are incapable of reading and comprehending their textbooks.

This was revealed by a survey conducted by the Standing Committee for a Literate Nation - an organ of the Public People's Front - a mass mem-

bership organization whose interests cover a wide range of social problems.

This revelation is not entirely unexpected. Reporting to the National Assembly in April, Mr Bela Keszepci, the Minister of Education and Culture, noted that many school leavers had difficulty in expressing themselves in good written or spoken Hungarian, and that few had developed the ability or willingness to acquire knowledge from private reading.

On the same occasion, Istvan Sartos, Deputy Premier, noted that there was considerable dissatisfaction over school-leavers, which were frequently addressed to the "already educated" and not to the pupils for whom they were intended.

The range of textbooks is rarer than new books frequently arrive with the school year has started, and there is a lack of feedback from teachers to the books.

The supply of books, it seems, is one of the main problems. School libraries which should be a valuable means of encouraging children to expand their reading skills, are understocked, and choice of books is restricted, and school books for young people are seldom reviewed, teachers have no idea what books are available.

Furthermore, although between 4.5 per cent of the national income is spent on education, the average school in Hungary spends only 2 per cent on books.

The training headache that will not go away

OVERSEAS

WEST GERMANY

Paul Bendelow on the Bonn Government's struggle to bring jobless school-leavers "in from the cold"



Dorothee Wilms (left): she has urged employers to make up the shortfall in training places.

Despite a looming shortage of training places, expected to be the worst in West German history, the Bonn Government is revisiting pressure to modify the established structure of vocational training by encroaching on industry's virtual monopoly.

Over a quarter of a million school-leavers had failed to find places as trainees or apprentices at the end of July - 40,000 more than at the same period last year.

With the new training year beginning this month, pressure is growing for immediate Government action to avert what the opposition is referring to as "the greatest training catastrophe". But, chastened by its failure last year to fulfil a premature promise of "training for all", the Bonn Government is refusing to accept interim figures and insisting on waiting for the October total.

Dr Dorothee Wilms, Federal Education Minister, has castigated alleged attempts to make party political capital by dramatizing what she admits is "a situation of special difficulty" and has publicly warned against unnecessarily raising parents' and school-leavers' anxiety about the shortage of training places.

At the same time, a pamphlet issued by the ministry expresses the Government's confidence in the Dual System, in which the private sector is responsible for practical training, with state finance, and the part-time vocational schools provide the theoretical back up.

Frau Wilms has appealed to trade and industry to pull out all the stops to make up this year's shortfall in training places, quoting the public sector's own efforts as an example to follow.

Federal institutions, like the railways and postal authorities, are aiming to increase their traineeships this year by 7.5 per cent, though with no guarantee of future employment for these surplus to requirements. If trade and industry did likewise, Frau Wilms argues, there would be no shortfall this year.

The private sector responded to a similar appeal last year by making a

record number of training places available, but warned that it would be unrealistic to expect a repeat performance in 1984. Even so, Herr Otto Wolff Amerongen, the president of the Association of Chambers of Trade and Industry, urged firms to "mobilize all reserves" to create more training opportunities. "We cannot allow these young people to be left out in the cold," he said.

Recent surveys, however, indicate that trade and industry are likely to take on around 7 per cent fewer apprentices than last year, despite an estimated 100,000 extra applicants. While employers claim this is unavoidable owing to continued rationalization, slow economic recovery and the after-effects of protracted industrial disputes, the trade union federation has accused management of failing abysmally in its training obligations.

The federation has called for an immediate action programme on training and for central government to impose



financial penalties on firms not fulfilling their training quota.

This appeal for action has been echoed by authorities in North Rhine-Westphalia, the state worst hit by the training shortage. The state is urging central, regional and local authorities to pool resources at present funding 47 separate training promotion schemes, in order to make a concerted, unbureaucratic attempt to solve the problem.

Herr Friedhelm Farthmann, the regional employment minister, who estimates that 90,000 school-leavers will be unemployed in North Rhine-Westphalia by the end of the year, has charged Bonn with "elevating inactivity to the level of policy".

While doggedly rejecting calls for further government intervention, such as the opposition Social Democrats' proposal for a £400m scheme to finance an additional 50,000 training places, Frau Wilms has outlined measures aimed at "supporting" and "sup-

plementing" private sector efforts. The Government has simplified various regulations concerning training and has approved courses and qualifications in new fields such as environmental protection.

Frau Wilms has also increased aid for particularly hard-hit groups, such as girls and ethnic minorities, and is supporting a scheme encouraging more than one firm to share the costs of an apprenticeship.

In addition, a campaign costing over £200,000 has been launched, which aims to recruit the help of retired master-craftsmen in persuading firms in their localities to take on trainees.

Whether these supplementary measures can stem the swelling tide of unemployed school-leavers is doubtful, in view of marked changes in the pattern of post-school transition. With over-filled universities and growing graduate unemployment, many school-leavers now prefer to acquire solid job skills rather than move on to higher

education. More than half of West Germany's school-leavers now want to go straight into practical training - a trend which can only increase with mounting unemployment.

Cuts in grants to sixth-formers are a further deterrent for staying on at school. There has been a 35 per cent increase this year in the number of school-leavers qualified for polytechnic or university entrance, who have chosen instead to apply for traineeships.

In addition, there is a growing body of "second time applicants"; most of the 15,000 school-leavers who failed to find apprenticeships in 1983 are trying again.

If the private sector's investment in training does not expand beyond the current £5,000m annually, the dual system will fail to meet the country's training requirements. This conclusion has produced a vociferous lobby in favour of creating full-time practical training courses at vocational schools, few of which exist at present. Such courses, it is urged, could be established as an interim measure, until the product of the high birth rate years has passed through the transitional phase into working life, at which point the traditional dual system would again be able to cope.

Chancellor Kohl's centre-right coalition, however, is unlikely to countenance such proposals on ideological and economic grounds.

Apart from its commitment to reduce rather than extend the state sphere, the financial burden of employing more vocational school trainees, providing working materials and paying students the equivalent of apprenticeship wages, would run counter to the Government's course of public spending cutbacks.

"The State is not in a position to supplant the voluntary commitment of trade and industry," Frau Wilms said at the beginning of the year. It remains to be seen whether the number of unemployed training applicants in the autumn will be sufficiently large to force a major policy change.

Rush to join open university

NETHERLANDS

There is overwhelming interest in Holland's first open university which starts this month.

So far, 14,000 people, over half in the 26-40 age group, have registered at the university's headquarters in Heerlen - in the South-east of the country - 10,000 more than expected.

The university, with its emphasis on the non-selection of students, has degree and non degree courses, and is largely based on the British system, but with a few significant exceptions. To encourage flexibility and motivation students enrol not for a year but for a three-month unit of study, which has a work load of 100 or 200 hours and can be "bundled" with other units to make a tailored course of study. Television time too is limited to only 40 hours a year, so that a much wider use can be made of video.

A modest £7m/10m has been initially allocated for the university, with any extra funding in future having to come from an all round increase in higher education fees.

Students now pay £32 for a 100-hour course or £64 for a 200-hour course, the same amount as an equivalent course elsewhere. Less well off students, can, according to their financial means, have their fees, books and travel costs wholly or partly reimbursed.

Provisional figures show that a third of the applicants are women, mainly with an average secondary education, with only a sprinkling of applicants under 21. Nearly half the intake have plumped for law, including two-thirds of the men. Next most popular courses of study are liberal arts (20 per cent of students), and physics (7 per cent of students).

Lynne George

War of words to aid illiterates

NIGERIA

A "war against illiteracy" designed to combat Nigeria's 60-75 per cent illiteracy rate has been launched by the Federal Government in tandem with a move to increase the supply of reading materials.

The National Mass Literacy Campaign and the Readership Promotion Campaign are both emphasizing the importance of reading to national development.

A new drive to improve literacy in the army and police force has also begun. And Mr Ehin Iyand, Inspector General of Police, has given his officers three years to acquire GCE O level standard - or be sacked.

Similarly, daily adult education classes have been instituted for illiterate soldiers.

Meanwhile, a call has gone out for more libraries to be provided by local government, and greater involvement on the part of voluntary organisations, commercial concerns, publishers and book sellers in promoting literacy.

Mr Yerima Abdullahi, the Education Minister, speaking at the Promotion of Reading seminar in Lagos, said that "no nation has been known to advance shrouded in illiteracy".

But he added that the problem was concentrated in Nigeria by the fact that 95 per cent of the available materials are in English, a second language for most people.

At another seminar on the promotion of reading held last month Mr Archibald Calloway, UNESCO's representative in Nigeria, said he was heartened by the "important signs of change" and the fact that there was no longer a shortage of Nigerian authors.

Jane Bryce

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SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Secondary Education orientation offers a broad grouping of four single units of which two cover 14/18: Education and Training and Organisation and Management in Secondary Schools.

Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, CIE, FREEPOST, Sharnbury Road, Cambridge CB2 1BR.

Computer addiction does
harm at several levels

Sir - Your news item (TES, September 7) touches on only one aspect of a very serious problem. I teach a first-year undergraduate class of computer science students. Over recent years there has been an increasing number of students who spectacularly fail the first year because of computer addiction. If the trend continues we could well lose over a quarter of the class in the coming session from this cause. This is most unfortunate for the students, who will blithely ignore the warnings of their tutors, skip lectures, etc. until it is too late. It also represents a serious waste of resources and university places at a time when the country is crying out for more computer science graduates.

There seem to be three factors at work. One relates to the loss of parental discipline when a student leaves home. At university, he finds that he can run his home computer in his own room at any time of the day or night, as long as his games are not so noisy that they keep the neighbours awake. In some cases, at least, the home computer that causes the trouble was a present for passing A levels and getting a place at university.

The third factor seems to be that the



'The second factor is that many parents and teachers actually encourage computer-addicted children to take computer science courses. This is about as sensible as deliberately selecting drug addicts to train as pharmacists! Even if the student passes the course there must always be doubt as to whether he should be allowed to practise his professional skills on the general public.

The third factor seems to be that the

presence of addicts, sometimes actively encouraged by an add teacher, actually discourages other students from taking up the subject in order to study computers and to become a member of a somewhat minded elitist clique and spend 20 hours every day fooling around a keyboard, cannot expect intelligent, imaginative and socially active children to see computer science as a worthwhile career.

Most people realize that things mean that a child will become a pianist. The sooner it is realized that the ability to avoid social contact, writing egocentric programs on a computer has nothing to do with computer science, the better. If the country is to remain at the forefront of information technology, it is essential that the relevant training courses do not become a dumping ground for social misfits.

CHRIS REYNOLDS
33 Buckingham Road
Ting
Hertfordshire

Compulsive notes

Sir - I was interested in Hilary Wilce's article about computer junkies. It is disturbing that the computer is posing such a threat to so many young members of the male population.

We in Leicester have become concerned about a similar problem: note-taking junkies. Pupils at risk again appear to be those with social problems.

The addicts spend hours in lessons at school willingly copying notes from the blackboard. They do this indiscriminately in lessons of almost any subject: history, geography, biology, physics and domestic science. Often they are pupils with family problems, or who

have difficulty finding boy-friends, and their note-taking addiction appears to make these problems worse, fellow students say.

They fear that the junkies - exclusively girls - do not acquire a deep and coherent level of knowledge about school subjects, but operate at a "jargon level", not really understanding what they are writing at all.

Some pupils have reached such an advanced level of addiction that they are prepared to spend up to three hours a night copying up notes for homework.

DEREK BAILL
66 Windrush Drive
Dadby
Leicester

'Junkie' research

Sir - I am in the initial stages of research into the modern phenomenon of the "computer junkie".

As a teacher I am primarily concerned with the social and psychological effects this "addiction" may have upon children. I would be very glad to hear from anyone who has experience with this problem, with details of frequency and effects. (All letters will be treated confidentially.)

M A SHOTTON
Department of Human Sciences
University of Technology
Loughborough
Leics LE11 3TU

Joint exams

Sir - I have followed the development of joint O/CSE examinations with enthusiasm and I had hoped that I would be able to introduce them into the science department here. This has not been possible.

In physics, for example, the Nuffield Joint O/CSE examination is set by the Midland Examining Group. Our local CSE board is the South Western Examinations Board. Imagine my frustration when I discovered that SWEB would not certificate candidates entered for the joint examination. I was told in February that "there will be no certification outside their own territory on joint examinations until such time as the Secretary of State has made a decision regarding a common system of examining at 16-plus".

The decision has now been taken, but there is no change in the situation. I cannot help but wonder what the educational reasons are for a reluctance to accept a grading awarded by another examination group.

I imagine that I am not alone in wanting to make use of joint examinations from an examination group outside my local CSE Board area. Might I ask all who feel as I do to make their local boards aware of their feelings.

L J TAYLOR
Head of Science
The George Ward School
Melksham
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Eh bien?

Sir - The French Education Minister is quoted as saying that a society which does not trust its teachers has no future.

Quelle est la société d'une société qui ne se fait pas?

JAMES SCOTT
Secretary NAS/UIT
Bair Survey

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Putting a new
perspective on
the Loves' story

Sir - The high cholesterol level in Killer Cake seems to have coloured Martin Harris's reporting. He might have taken a closer look at Botesford. My impression of it was of a somewhat feudal village. The last time I was there, cannon were firing from the castle ramparts to celebrate a royal wedding, and there's a monument in the church recording the death of children by witchcraft. It is still smarting from its defeat over mining in the Vale of Belvoir and so coal will be an emotive word. Like the Leicestershire village where I was headmaster, its preference will be for the tried and traditional, and newcomers will be suspect for several decades.

He might also have taken some time to read the *Handbook of Guidance for Governors, Managers and Heads*, preferably starting with the first edition (1955). The headmaster is captain of the ship and must be accorded the authority which such a responsibility entails. No Governor or Manager should attempt to interfere with the headmaster in professional matters such as methods of teaching and details concerning the curriculum. That was, of course, revised in 1976 and Fairbairn had to accept the revision imposed by the DES, with governors responsible with the headteacher "for the general direction of the conduct and curriculum of the school". This was qualified by: "It is this general direction and not the detail that is involved". In a letter to the local NAHT Fairbairn warned that governors and managers would have "a right to be consulted about some general innova-

tion, e.g. sex education or foxhunting." I suspect that his handling of the Love affair may have been conditioned by the older Handbook.

Very reactionary by today's thinking, but that was the Leicestershire cited by Professor Holmes in his study of successful educational innovation. One reason for its success was that Leicestershire headteachers "enjoy a professional freedom which is unsurpassed by any other I.E.U."

The handbook makes the distinction between "general direction" over which governors share responsibility with the headteacher, and detail which is not the governors' province. I would judge the sexist activities of Nip and Fluff to be detail, the general direction would be whether children learned to read - by whatever method or scheme. If they did not, then the governors should require an explanation. My own governors leave me the detail but satisfy themselves by regular and unheralded visits that the direction is sound. They have to devote more of their formal discussion to dilapidation, dangerous fabric etc. than to details of curriculum, but leave that to those they judge to be professionals.

There is one other injunction for governors: "They may act as a buffer against any arbitrary despotism or hasty action on the part of another individual or body". It could be argued that Botesford governors are fulfilling that duty at the moment.

Botesford is C of E controlled and as such its instrument of government is imposed by the DES. There was no provision in this for parent or teacher



Susan and Colin Love and their daughter, Hannah.

governors. Revised instruments of government from the DES only arrived at controlled schools during the August holiday. Fairbairn can hardly be held responsible for this.

You might think from the Loves' story that all parent complaint is obstructed. Mason held that "despite concern for vast schemes and broad principles education is not a deeply concerned with the individual". It was a view shared by Fairbairn. One of my parents wrote to him complaining that her son was required to do needlework and country dancing and that the

school wasted its resources on the less able. It was quite intemperately written, but I was required by Fairbairn to answer each complaint and justify the school's action. I know that mine is not a unique experience and in each case, if there has been bias it has favoured the parent. Tim Rogers, in his article in the same issue, praises the "caring humans" at County Hall.

P N SHERWOOD
Headmaster
County Junior School
Burbage
Hinckley
Leicestershire

ELIZABETH WALLIS
Advisory Centre for Education
18 Victoria Park Square
Bathurst
London E2

Report unfair

Sir - I was angered to read on the front page of your September 7 issue that staff of this school "walked out" at lunchtime on Monday, September 3, "leaving pupils to eat out".

The accompanying pictures bear no relation to fact. The staff pictured would not in any normal circumstances have been undertaking supervisory duties at lunchtime. The girls pictured, all fifth years, do not regularly take school lunch.

On the day in question, a total of 339 girls and nine staff (with two supervisors) took school dinner. In addition, in the region of 150 girls ate packed lunches on the premises. During the first week of term only on the festival of Id-ul-Adha was there any significant reduction because pupils were, of course, at home.

The NUT branch of this school, in accordance with proper professional practice, held a meeting after school on Tuesday and decided to resume sanctions. They informed me of this in writing on Wednesday morning and I duly informed parents that they could expect disruption which I would endeavour to keep to the minimum. In the event the action was called off before there was any effect whatsoever.

I feel that teachers are both underpaid and undervalued and I share the universal dismay at the unsatisfactory award. I do not feel, however, that we do our case any good by appearing to be irresponsible in the carrying out of our duties or cavalier in our attitude to parents or pupils. I am neither.

During the action of the summer, which in this school was both protracted and severe, at no time were pupils made to eat out. At some cost to myself, and to my deputies, all first and second-year pupils and all others taking school lunch were allowed to remain on the premises. Many of those who attend this school are from our local Bangladeshi community, who, regrettably, are at some particular risk in this inner city area. All young children might be considered so.

At no time, in keeping with the characteristic attitude of care in this school, did even the most militant of my colleagues suggest that my desire to protect my pupils was misplaced. Your report, in implying that there could

have been no notice to parents and little concern for pupils, some of whom had joined the school only that morning, impugns, in my view, the conduct and professional standards of both my colleagues and myself.

Your photograph, so the girls tell me, revealed neither their identity nor his purpose. They thought "he was a student miss, doing a project, or something".

They are now wiser, and I am sadder, to know that even in the TES a good story is more important than truth.

ELIZABETH SMITH
Headmistress
Central Foundation
Girls School
Bow Road
London E3

The photographer in question did reveal both his identity and purpose to the teachers pictured, and they agreed to be photographed for the TES. The purpose was to give some idea of the effects of the resumption of NUT action, rather than to single out the Central Foundation Girls School.

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Alice in unionland

Sir - The only logical explanation for the tactics adopted by the National Union of Teachers in the recent round of pay negotiations and its new plan for a radical change in salary structures is to sabotage the negotiations of the salary structuring working party. The NUT's primary concern is the preservation of its own power and status as a union. It is time that it stopped contemplating its own navel. An Alice in Wonderland approach to economic realities serves no useful purpose.

The reality lies in the resumption of the structure talks to include new conditions of service. Pay policies which are based on the philosophy that children are important but teachers' pay more important go hand in hand with the current pseudo-professional status of teachers which the NUT seems determined to maintain at all cost.

MICHAEL G M KENNY
15 Impey Close
Redditch
Worce

M S RUDDOCK
Head
The Warriner School
Bloxham
Banbury
Oxfordshire

Listening body

Sir - With reference to the article "The Loves' Letters" by Martin Harris (TES, September 7), we at ACE, having read through the mountain of correspondence arising from the case, can appreciate the skill with which he separated the various strands of the story.

The most telling, in our view, was the picture of continual refusal on the part of the headteacher and I.E.U. officers to give straight answers to a few straight questions from parents on their child's education. Unfortunately, such reluctance, in ACE experience, is not rare.

It is clear that if Mr and Mrs Love had had a legitimate channel through which to seek information on, and exert influence on, what their daughter was learning at school, then the resulting marathon correspondence would not have been necessary.

Why this government, which claims to seek to advance the parents' interest, did not add a clause to the 1980 Act making it compulsory for all schools to have a parent-teacher association, remains a mystery.

Despite the proposals of the recent Green Paper, "Parental Influence at Schools", headteachers will be able to refuse to allow parents and teachers to come together, eg in parent teacher associations, to discuss educational matters. And in our rigidly hierarchical education system, once a head has made a decision (however unreasonable) and has refused to allow a PTA, the decision is backed up to the hilt by everyone else in the authority.

The lengthy correspondence also highlights the need for a representative governing body which listens to the parent voice. As the Loves' letters show, this is as important for parents of children in voluntary aided schools as in county schools.

ELIZABETH WALLIS
Advisory Centre for Education
18 Victoria Park Square
Bathurst
London E2

INSET for preps

Sir - I refer to your front page article (TES, September 7) in which you say that "Private schools lag well behind the State sector in giving their staffs in-service training." Your article referred to a report produced by the Headmasters' Conference, which only represents the public schools.

The Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, the association which represents 550 preparatory schools, has been running annual residential in-service training courses for staff for 36 years. We have a director of staff training who is a retired HMI and, in addition to subject courses, we also hold courses for headmasters and potential headmasters, and this autumn there will be a one-day seminar at Oxford for teacher-training students who are considering a career in independent schools.

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False dawn

MORAG MORRISON

The educational noises coming from south of the border indicate that the English system of secondary education is about to hit the heady road to a modular system. In Scotland the new dawn is already upon us.

In 1974, the Munn Committee was set up to deliberate on the content of secondary education in Scotland; one year later the Dunning Committee was set up to consider assessment procedures. Both these committees re-

ported in 1977 and it looked as though the reports might gently gather dust. However, 1979 brought a government dedicated to cutting local government expenditure. It seized upon Munn and Dunning with great glee and proceeded to push forward with plans to implement their recommendations in some haste.

Any reasonable person would have smelled a rat, but not so the teaching unions, who paddled towards their doom with all the simple minded naivete of a new bride outside Dracula's castle. It was expected that lots of new teaching jobs would emerge.

Predictably this has not come to pass and to add insult to injury the Secretary of State for Scotland has decreed that local authorities must make do with what staff they already have, and some should consider cutting teaching

posts as they are, in the eyes of the Secretary of State, overstaffed. To provide for this fundamental reorganisation of Scottish education, schools are to be allowed to close for up to ten extra days this year, although some local authorities are closing to pupils for only five days.

The modular and assessment procedures appear to have much in common with American patterns of education in the 1960s and 1970s, which few serious educationists would commend as being of a high standard. The universities are now making noises about what they are prepared to accept from the new proposals, and it would appear that they do not view the new dawn through the same rose-tinted spectacles of the Scottish Education Department.

Modular education is a bit like

painting by numbers; while pictures may produce a pleasant effect, it could hardly be considered art any more than learning modules will be identified as 'learning'. Merely an illusion of relevance to the shrinking work that the present O Grade no commitment whatsoever to learning music and art, or parental participation in education.

You Southerners beware, the voices as they seek to lead you down channels as shallow as the sea, they purport to advance. At the bottom line is in closed schools, lost jobs before you sign up to the most latest educational fad.

Morag Morrison is a member of the NUT Council's education area.

Art in profile

JANE HARRILD

"It's only art" is a statement I've heard repeated times without number. It reflects a deep-seated lack of knowledge, understanding and sensitivity to this extremely important area of the curriculum. After all, don't we all live in an essentially visual world?

Too often, my subject has been asked to make room for mathematics examinations, school visits, sports days and the like on the basis that, "They're not going to miss much really, are they?"

Against this background, what a difficult task it is going to be to persuade those in positions of power to take serious notice of the proposition that art is ideally suited to a profile system of recording achievement and experiences.

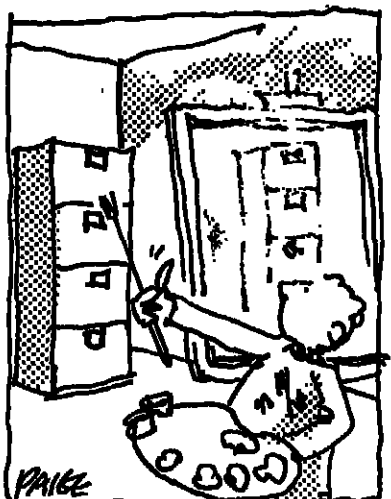
But, is this not precisely what happens during art lessons anyway?

Aren't students encouraged to develop individually, to make personally expressive visual statements and to experiment and acquire skills in a variety of media? And life skills, such as organizational ability, responsibility for materials and equipment, cooperation, judgement and discrimination leading to critical self-awareness and the development of self-confidence, are so obviously central to learning environment of the art classroom.

Similarly, the production of a portfolio of art work is commonplace throughout the entire age range of secondary education? This portfolio becomes central to the assessment process during the upper school years, and an invaluable aide for selection both by employers and further or higher educational establishments.

So, why is profiling so rarely envisaged, in terms of visual education? Is it because this subject area is still considered to be either too subjective to be recorded along the lines of a profile or that it is still the poor relation of the curriculum, the playful and non-serious aspect of education which is to be endured rather than cured?

Artistic endeavour is assessed but it is the on-going, developmental process, that matters rather than the final



product. A CSE exhibition - an integral part of the formal assessment process - that shows struggle to master techniques, ideas, experimentation, creativity and problem-solving over a period of two years, exemplifies the criterion-referenced method of profile recording. Personal, individual development and in-depth, frequent negotiation with staff in the evolution of a personalized programme of learning are the essence of art tasks.

The application that many of us skills attitudes and experiences across the curriculum is, to various - such as the manipulation of materials, critical awareness, imagination and creative sensitivity - what is urgently required in a profile report on art across the curriculum.

In the meantime, the Secretary of State for Education promises that the case for aesthetic subjects all students is "not strongly argued" (TES, June 1, 1984). Some time declaring, "We are not that all pupils will continue to learn and design throughout the compulsory education?" And as we with an interest in this undervalued area of the curriculum and one ideally placed to learn whether the status of art has been improved by official - but we had better not let collective breath.

Jane Harrild was head of art, London School and recently research officer with the South-West Profile Assessment Research Unit, Bristol.

younger age group and it was thus that we introduced story boxes: plastic ice-cream containers filled with a variety of objects. The dinosaur story box had a collection of plastic dinosaurs, a few rocks, twigs and some pieces of cloth. Others included Farm, Zoo, Train, and Home (mostly pieces of dolls house furniture and miniature people).

The propitious advent of Play People made things much easier as these admirable and long lasting plastic figures now include pirates, kings, knights, doctors and nurses, and builders. Each box could be taken to a desk and a story constructed by an individual or a group before being written about - the box contents being checked against a list before return.

Interestingly, the junior children seemed to have to go through the same stages as the infants. Although some were apparently on such things as "English Workbook 3" they were not necessarily any more, and were often less, fluent than a child in a top infant class when it came to describing the stories they had made up (as Barrie Wade suggests would be the case). Small wonder they found it hard to undertake "creative writing" when they had no props at all.

It may be that many teachers come from the fortunate ranks of those who could happily push visual images around in their minds as children, and therefore "shone" at writing but consequently don't understand the needs of those who cannot.

We know enough about mathematical development now to realize that most children need to push real things around if they are to build up an adequate understanding of mathematical relationships. Some, but very few, seem to need less practice at this but they are the exception. Could it be that something similar applies to language? Certainly one only has to listen to they have just made up to realize what an effort it can be. Also, how they improve with practice - some stories become so involved they begin to last over several days and form a serial story.

If the children know that they are expected to tell their teacher or relevant adult, the story they have made up before they put the box away, the problem of just moving the materials about or misusing them, is avoided. In the classroom it may be tempting to the teacher to miss this very important step and suggest that the children

just "get on with writing the story" but from experience, this time of re-telling the story is a vital stage and many teaching points and children's self corrections and the beginnings of revision take place during this exchange. Apart from the advantages that accrue from becoming more articulate and a better reader, there may be the social benefits of working together to make up stories, and also emotional ones. The strains of some children's lives can be played out or explored in their story-ing, lessening chances of

their anxieties erupting in behaviour. Finally, story box work is a great opportunity for developing the underused and undervalued capacity: imagination.

This article is based on a chapter further entitled "Guidelines to Creative Writing" being issued by the Education Authority and Edgely Elizabeth Thompson, East Herts Teachers Centre, Longmead, Herts.

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FEATURES

Photos by David Hoffman

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Starting at School: Together or Apart and Parent/Teacher Co-operation to Help Twins at School are obtainable from the Twins Clubs Association, 123 Cumberland Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 1RE. 30p each plus postage.

Two's a crowd

Taming the dragon?

Review

The radical teacher's dilemma

by Peter Newsam

All London Teachers Against Racism and Fascism
ALTARF £2.00.
0 95096 73 10.

All London Teachers Against Racism and Fascism is a campaigning collective founded in 1978. Six years on from its founding the collective retains a vigorous air about it.

So what of its first full-length book? This consists of 17 separate contributions. The early chapters deal with the theoretical side of racism. Later chapters deal with the response to racism in schools and teachers in school. "An Interview with Wendy", "Talking about Race" and "Anti-racist Teaching" are not-to-be-missed chapters which provide direct answers to the question "What do anti-racist teachers actually do?"

The early chapters leave some uncertainties; inevitably so. At the heart of any radical discussion on race there is a dilemma. If you believe, as the collective does, that a radical restructuring of society is necessary, in particular of its class structures and the economic relationships that lie behind them, how are teachers to do their job within that, as they perceive it, fundamentally flawed and racist society?

The collective puts its own theoretical position clearly: "We do not see the school as isolated from the community. Anti-racist teaching which stays at the classroom door cannot truly be described as anti-racist. We must challenge inside and outside the school the racism, sexism and class structures which divide us."

For teachers to challenge society outside school in this way is straightforward. It is their democra-

tic right to do so. Within school, that right is not established. Hence the dilemma. Whatever radicals may wish to the contrary, within school parental, professional and administrative pressures cause success to be defined in terms of existing structures. It is to these that the school system requires pupils to be integrated.

"Who wants to be integrated into a burning house?" James Baldwin once asked. But most parents of black and white children alike do not perceive a burning house. They see school as a moving bus. And they want their children to hop on even if it means a bit of pushing and shoving in the process.

So the radical teacher's dilemma remains; how to work honestly within a system while working honestly to change it.

It is to ALTARF's credit that they face the issue head-on. Betty Hunter, in her chapter on what i.e.s. ought to be doing, is therefore critical of the ILEA's emphasis on grading and achievement that is to be measured in terms of society as it is and not as it might be.

But what alternative is proposed? Accountability to those whom the schools serve, appears to be the reply. At present "the only groups who have influence have been the middle-class parents organizing to ensure their children are given the maximum opportunity to succeed". That is probably true. But take the case of Quintin Kynaston himself, a school whose work on anti-racism and anti-sexism is reflected in several chapters of this book. That the school exists at all in 1984 follows from decisions taken in the mid-Seventies. It was then a declining boys' school and an easy prey to closure.

Four factors saved it. First, a determined group of those suspect, mainly middle-class, white mothers who wanted a mixed local school to send their daughters to. Second, a head with a vision of what a mixed school might become. Third, a handful of officials and elected members who agreed with that local analysis. Fourth and vitally, a willingness on the part of those individuals to ignore the evidence of an increasing surplus of girls' places in the area and the views of the under-consulted majority, who were beginning to mobilize against the proposal. Quintin Kynaston today is the result of a non-consultative, piecemeal, exercise of power carried out in pursuit of an ideal. There is more than one way of bringing about a radical result.

Lynette Huber's article on black teachers is realistically wary about the consultative process. "Consultation after consultation for nearly half a century", she points out; yet still there is discrimination against black teachers. But here, I believe, she loses her way. "The quantifiable facts" she says, "have been closely documented for more than two and a half decades. There is no shortage of evidence . . .". How can she have come to believe that? Many talk and many are angry about discrimination in teaching. But no one knows what is actually happening. How many black teachers are there in London? What are their qualifications? What graded posts do they hold?

For how long have they held them? For which jobs have they applied? In what proportion are they being turned down? How many are on less favourable contracts? How many are being accepted on courses to improve their promotabil-

ity? What happens to them when schools amalgamate?

Nobody knows. Major institutions can do anger and pressure. They begin to respond when well-informed key people within decide to act. That is why it is important that institutions as monolithic, however they appear from the outside.

In E. Kolenzo's article on the "Public Schools" there is some danger of this same thing. The sharpest critics of any organization already inside it. So it is no use writing off Metropolitan Police. There are people in it, as there are in the school system, working to change it. They deserve better than to be summarily written off as the enemy.

Other chapters deal usefully with Irishness rarely raised in educational debate, against mother-tongue teaching and what can be done with under-fives. Yet another chapter remarks of the difficulty of bringing about change a whole school from the precarious position being a supply teacher.

Finally, although this is not a home-made collection of essays, the draft syllabus (the notes by John Wright on "Immigration, mobility and uncertainty", and the description of social education by Barbara Dismantle) are an essential point. Racism will not be removed by good intentions or even by black anger. A detailed work is required. At a time when documents rain on the school system from the DES, HMI and I.E.S. - hence the springs from the classroom itself. This, behind this book may prove unacceptable; the enterprising and practical work it describes should interest all.

argues, can bring the necessary balance to what will effectively be able to deal with the social adjustment he is seeking.

Sarah Manwaring-White's pre-occupation more immediate. The move towards police consent, she fears, is in danger of being whittled by policing through technology. "If policing has contributed most of all to the present lack of confidence in police methods" she says. Not so. More people are worried about the abysmally low clear-up rates for burglary and about rude, racist or corrupt policemen than ever spurred a thought to the dangers of police-held computerized personal information, or the increasing sophistication of aerial and satellite surveillance devices, or the growth in the police use and sometimes misuse of guns.

Manwaring-White assumes too readily that new technology will be used for benign, democratic ends. But it may also catch up and make communities safer for its members. It may not yet have reached the line beyond which police technology threatens fundamental liberties to the extent of undermining our democracy, but her warning of its potential dangers is timely, and extremely informative.

Jack Young and John Lea represent the most approach to Left thinking about crime. The standpoint is unwaveringly socialist, but, with some of their more unyielding colleagues who are new Marxist criminology, they are prepared to argue their case on the facts, not the dogma. *Is to be done about Law and Order?* is an excellently clear, jargon-free exposition of the myths and realities of crime and of society's responses to it. Part of their argument is the governmental and police policies on law and order are often founded on false assumptions exaggerated by distorted statistics and media.

A Home Office Research Study on *Police Crime in England and Wales* (Stationery Office £4.20) bears out the point. For example, in most in fear of mugging are elderly ladies. In fact, statistically, they run the least risk. Yet when they are mugged, it becomes news and provokes an official attitudes and potential responses are of all proportion to the reality. Lea and Young carefully expose a number of such distortions without, however, minimizing the fact that there is a crime problem which cannot be blamed on the combination of alleged police oppression and prejudice, judicial bias, and anti-white class, political structures. They have written a book which is both a valuable introduction to political criminology and a provocative challenge to the under-ventured.

Chaos out of order

Threads
BBC2, September 23.
On the 8th Day
BBC2, September 24.

Nineteen years ago, the BBC decided not to screen *The War Game* on the grounds that it was "too horrifying for the medium of television". Peter Watkins' film, later given a limited release in film theatres, was made in black-and-white and portrayed the aftermath of nuclear war in "documentary" style that Watkins had used for his historical reconstruction, *Culloden*. That is to say that it imitated the techniques of the newsreels and documentaries, which, in 1965, were showing scenes of real war in Vietnam, not considered too horrifying for the medium. The real objection was assumed to be Watkins' depressing account of Britain's civil defence preparations and probable behaviour of the civil and military authorities in post-nuclear Britain.

Threads, written by Barry Hines and directed by Mick Jackson, is considerably more gruesome than *The War Game* and just as pessimistic about the inability of the authorities to cope with a full-scale nuclear attack. In fact its title refers to the complex network of communications and services on which our civilization depends, symbolized by the spider's web behind the credits, and the message is that when threads are broken, there is no future for the survivors except reversion to a pre-industrial, dark age society. Most of us will not survive and nothing can be done to protect those who do.

Like *The Day After*, *Threads* is more drama than documentary. Watkins' handheld cameras were one approach to depicting the "reality" of disaster. *Threads* is another, involving the viewer in the fate of a single city, Sheffield, and two "ordinary" families. When you know what is coming, it is hard to keep your mind on soap opera and the most compelling acting comes from the supporting cast, and after the bomb falls: the fices frozen with horror in the street, the hemmed members of the regional government trapped beneath the town hall and trying, from their tomb, to organize transport, food and medical services. The hospital scenes



Mr and Mrs Beckett (Henry Moxon and June Broughton) huddle together in their house after the bomb in *Threads*

are nearly unwatchable. The reality (as they say: "on the best available scientific evidence") would be worse.

Disbelieve it, if you dare. There will be those who argue with the scenario for the conflict and with the predictions of the survivor society that emerges from it. No doubt they have their reasons for wanting to believe that even if it happens, Britain can take it. Certainly, by the thirteenth year after, where *Threads* ends, one is speaking in metaphor: Barry Hines' survivors, in a country with population reduced to around four million, are medieval marauders, cursed with genetic deformities and grunting a debased form of Middle English. As a model for the future, it is no better than any other: the medieval peasant had an acceptable life compared to this.

Nineteen years on, I find the prospect of nuclear war just as horrifying. Science has given me cause to find it even more so. Michael Andrews

documentary shows the evidence, widely accepted by scientists in the US and the USSR, for the severe climatic changes that would follow even a limited "nuclear exchange". Its discussion of this "nuclear winter" is deliberately understated: diagrams, maps, talking heads, a lecture on the fate of the dinosaurs. The dinosaurs would have been bored out of their tiny minds.

As Carl Sagan says, we must change the way we think. For the actors and production teams who worked on *Threads* and *On the 8th Day*, making the films was, apparently, a profoundly disturbing experience. Watching them is no fun. But they should be shown and they should be watched. If the medium has a responsibility for telling us about nuclear war, even at the risk of upsetting sensitive viewers, then we have a responsibility to listen.

Robin Buss

Conflicts

The Party
The Other Place, Stratford upon Avon.

The Party, first seen at the National in 1973, is a play, accurately and incisively of its time. Its theme - the conflict of personal and political values - is indelible. Set in May 1968, when politics and personalities (Marxism and McCartney, Martin Luther King and Mao) seemed to share the limelight, the play centres on a politician, Joe Shawcross, in fashionable SW7, in one corner, suave, sly, and jockeying academically titillating (and personally comfortable) view. In the other, Trotskyist man of the people John Tagg counters with a call to a disciplined proletarian revolution, punctuating Ford's argument with a reminder that

Old Story Time
Theatre Royal Stratford East.

At the centre of Trevor Rhone's play, there is a fairly straightforward melodrama. Duffin, son of a rich and educated man, married to a woman mother disapproves of. Wicked local businessman (who has conned much out of cash sent by son) starts meddling with the family affairs. The play's authentic rural Jamaican setting, together with the fullness and range of the language (from straight English to broad lifting Caribbean) and the warmth and energy of the playing helped to lift it above the level of a West Indian *East Lynne*. What really distinguishes it is the characterization. Two seemingly recurrent figures in West Indian theatre - the self-made businessman and the returning son - are seen here in a new perspective. The businessman, as a gun-toting paragon, digging his own

most of the partygoers - a literary agent, a television playwright, some students - don't qualify as proletarians. It's in these two speeches, delivered with hypnotic power by Ian McDiarmid as Tagg and just the right amount of smooth-chopped charm by Roger Allam as Ford, that the heart of the play's argument lies.

Yet Griffiths is still able to pile on the personal agony, through Shawcross's self-parodying angst and the playwright's self-indulgent brooding. The pain is momentarily dissolved in simple scenes between Shawcross and his brother who, true to his working-man's roots, has come south to "better himself".

The playing is excellent throughout, particularly David Threlfall's justifiably mannered portrayal of Shawcross. After all, this is 1968, when the crisis-stricken were expected to indulge in a little self-gratifying pretence. This is a fine production, gripping, stimulating and above all, politically challenging.

grave with the incompetence of his fraud attempts. The returning son is rather prim and snug and eventually finds himself confronted with his own rather mad delusions. The only place of characterization cardboard is old mum, played with astonishing vitality by Mona Hammond. She is simply good and stupid in equal measure. Rudolph Walker plays Pa Ben the lovable narrator figure with a little bit too much in the avuncular charm line, but Larrington Walker as the son is excellent.

The play also offers an interesting insight into the interlocking racism of Jamaican life - the pater you skin the better you're likely to do in life. Thus Pa Ben says of the meddling businessman villain: "Strange to see a high brown in this district and it's not even election time." This is authentic domestic black drama ("a Jamaican classic" according to Oliver Lewin, Jamaica's art and culture director) big, bouncy and very black.

Nick Baker

Astray from the path

The Company of Wolves (18)
Odeon Leicester Square

Nell Jordan's *The Company of Wolves* is a remarkable film, quite unlike any other British production I can recall, even those he himself has acknowledged as its forerunners (the films of Powell and Pressburger, Laughton's *The Night of the Hunter*). An exploration of fairy tale, it brings to the foreground the dark, lurid heart of that genre, evident even in diluted nursery versions, played out in a fantastic forest that is as sinister as it is beautiful. Cinematographically, the film is a triumph: in the studio set, artifice and artificial are brilliantly fused, while Christopher Tucker's special effects perfectly convey the stylish, stylized fictionality of the entire project. To have made the film for an amount which Steven Spielberg could spend on a single scene is not the least of their achievements.

A young girl, Roseleen, dreams in her attic bedroom; the film, her dream, carries us through a series of fairy tales, based around the central myth of the werewolf, and reflects the young girl's growing awareness of the complexities of the world around her, of her own emerging sexuality, of death. Her principal, a wholly uncredible, teacher in this dream-world is her grandmother (a marvellous Angela Lansbury), who retails the strange, dark stories of wolves hairy on the inside, men whose eyebrows meet in the middle, and the horrible fate awaiting those who stray from the path. Her tales form set-pieces within the dream, tales within the tale: the wife abandoned by her werewolf husband, the priest's bastard who meets the Devil in the woods, the betrayed, witch-girl wreaking vengeance on the



The beast in the man

wedding party, the wounded wolf-girl from the "world below". All these build steadily towards the central fantasy, a displaced version of the familiar Little Red Riding Hood story, initiated when Roseleen (Sarah Patterson), on her way to visit her grandmother, meets a handsome young hunter (Micha Bergese) in the woods. He challenges her to a race to the cottage.

The adaptation from her story by Angela Carter and Nell Jordan deliberately concentrates on the sexual

Given Watford has also seen failure: married to a man she pitied rather than loved. A narrator tells us what goes on offstage and inside the woman's head. Nothing happens, just talk - engrossing, amusing, provoking talk.

Transferred from Stratford, *Henry VIII* also shows a family in trouble. The family being royal, its upsets affect the lives of others and the course of history. Director Howard Davies eschews pageantry, going for political manoeuvre and backstage intrigue. The play being a poor hatched-up thing, this approach yields interesting, unhelped by drab scenery, ersatz costumes and demented music. Good acting by Richard Griffiths (Henry) and Gemma Jones (Katherine - not played for sympathy), and a cast of supernumeraries holds the attention. There is clever directorial set pieces but the play's blatant propagandaries out for a pageant master's hand. Not getting it, it fails.

So does Jean-Paul Sartre's *The Devil and the Good Lord* which has waited for its English premiere since 1951. Like *Henry VIII* is historical, centred on Goetz von Berlichingen and the German Reformation. Sartre makes Goetz a general without mercy or scruple who, on a whim, devotes himself to God and the peasants: evil personified takes on goodness, challenging God to prove his existence thereby. Goetz's failure to be loved, to become good, proves God's non-existence. Four hours of windy, wordy rhetoric played at full bellow from Gerard Murphy's chameleon Goetz, the acting is a curious barnstorming stuff. Brave intentions are not enough.

Which must also be said of *A Cocktail Cabaret*. Now in its fourth year, Granece (grey-eye) has established itself as a professional company of handicapped actors. As I understand it they don't want allowances made for them. Judged professionally, their material is weak, their voices need training. Personality and presence they have - particularly Hamish McDonald - and musical gifts. They should be better employed.

John James

Thin blue lines

Marcel Berlins reviews some new books about the police

Cop World. By James McClure. Macmillan £12.95.
0 333 30688 0.
Law and Disorder. By John Alderson. Hamish Hamilton £8.95.
0 241 11259 1.
The Policing Revolution. By Sarah Manwaring-White. Harvester Press £20.95. 0 7108 0555 1.
£7.95. 0615 9.
What is to be done about Law and Order? By J. Lea and J. Young. Penguin £2.95.
0 14 00 6593 8.

Spike Island. James McClure's last police verdict was a vigorous, riveting portrait of a police division in Liverpool, described largely in the words of the policemen and women doing their daily job in one of the most complex and sensitive communities in England. It may not have painted every wart, but it was convincing, constantly surprising and informative in a way which few academic studies of policing have managed to achieve.

It must have seemed a good idea to apply the same technique to the United States. *Cop World* dissects the San Diego Police Department interestingly but without the urgency and spirit of its English predecessor. Last year ago the department inaugurated a programme known as



COP (Community Oriented Policing) aimed at reducing tension between police and public and increasing awareness of the police role and its problems. Members of the public are entitled to "ride along" in squad cars on patrol, doing everything with the police except that which puts them in danger: in an effort to minimize the appearance of intimidation, San Diego policemen have tried to discard some of the traditional trappings of authority. Their uniforms are minimal, they wear no caps or helmets, and even mirror-sunglasses are banned. The guns, though, remain.

Why then does the portrait of this innovative and caring police force seem so lifeless compared to its Liverpool equivalent? McClure is not to blame. His perceptive and precise observational skills are still clearly in evidence. Perhaps San Diego is an essentially boring city. (Even last month's hamburger mass-murder was a newly arrived out-of-town). And nothing, its cops say, or do would seem out of the ordinary to anyone who has watched a modicum of documentary or indeed, fictional television on American police work. The only surprise is that, according to McClure, they use far less foul language than their Liverpool counterparts.

It is largely because of John Alderson, that community policing made any impact in this country. His important *Policing Freedom* was published in 1979, when he was still Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall. It was a

copper who, long before the Brixton riots and the Scarman report, was expounding the necessity for policing based on the community's participation and consent, and the urgency of shifting the emphasis of the police's role from the reactive to the preventive. He did not invent community policing, but his was the most significant voice supporting it at a time when many of his colleagues spurned it as a soft option acceptable in dozy country areas but irrelevant to the problems of the inner city. The events of 1981 were a sad vindication of Alderson's message.

Law and Disorder is a curious mix of a book, an elaboration of his well-traversed themes with a dash of memoir and a smattering of random thoughts. In places, with its short sections and curt sentences, it is reminiscent of Lord Denning's works and, like them, there is much that is not fully argued and left tantalizingly unclear.

On his main thesis, though, Alderson is clear and persuasive. He has developed what was essentially an argument about how to police into a multi-factorial sociological assessment of the place of crime and policing in our society. We have not solved our crime problems by the traditional methods; nor are we likely to. What is needed is less than a re-adjustment of our basic social structure, towards communitarianism (a term which will have to be abandoned for something more snappy if the concept is to have any chance). More the more frequent exercise of

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Next week

Ralph Berry offers a consumer's guide to sixth form editions of Shakespeare

ARTS

Doing the best

Freud. BBC2, Fridays, from September 14, 9.25pm.
The Sea of Faith. BBC2, Wednesdays, from September 12, 9.30pm.

Carey Harrison's telebiography of Freud starts at the end, with the old man as an exile in London, dying of cancer and struggling to talk through the prosthesis that held his jaw together during the final decade of his life. For once, the use of flashback to tell the story is not just a trite narrative convention. The courage with which he faced his last illness was exemplary, vindicating what Don Cupitt (in *The Sea of Faith* on September 19) summed up as Freud's ambition: to teach us "to do the best deal with life that we can". In the end, Freud's own deal proved to be a pretty good one and the image of David Suchet as the dying sage, sitting by his window in Hampstead, was convincing and moving.

Back in Vienna, some 60 years earlier, the life and the ideas cohered less effectively and the viewer who began without a refresher course in either was given several apparently unrelated themes from which to guess

what the series might ultimately prove to be about. There was Freud the physician, Freud the fiancé and Freud the apostle of cocaine. Were we to concentrate on the ward round and the mental patients, the treatment of Ernest von Fleisch's addiction to morphine or the frustrations of getting Martha respectively into bed? It was a tribute to the later influence of psychoanalysis that no one was likely to miss the significance of the headaches, literal as well as metaphorical, caused by Sigmund and Martha's prolonged engagement.

None the less, it was confusing. Characters entered unannounced and we found ourselves at dinner with the Freuds, without the introductions that are usual in bourgeois family reunions. The music (by Ilona Sekacz, which is how it sounded) appeared to be highlighting the significance of certain episodes with those sinister tones, evoking the dark forces of the unconscious, familiar from the Hollywood melodramas of the 1940s. There, when the dark forces were uncovered, it usually meant that someone was concluding a very bad deal with life. By Part 2, with Freud's treatment of the Baroness von Lieben, the series starts to take shape, though it still seems unsure whether to put its trust in

science or soap opera.

Don Cupitt recognized Freud's view that religion itself is an illness and religious teachings, "neuritic relics" (September 19), though I assume he did not entirely agree with it. He certainly seemed relieved to be able to deal briefly with Freud and turn to Jung, who is much more promising material for a programme that sets out to examine the persistence of religious ideas, despite the decline in orthodox belief.

The trouble with a series that promises to give as much time to the atheists as to the believers, is that it will probably please neither; or, at least, that each viewer will receive only the message that he or she wishes to hear. I was disturbed to find myself accepting so much that Cupitt said, between the expository bits about Galileo and Pascal. I began to suspect that this was because a statement like "the truth is in the quest, not in the fixed positions", is so bland as to be virtually meaningless. Darwin, Freud, Jung and the rest certainly seemed to be representing some kind of position and I doubt if any of them set out on their quest without the hope that it would uncover part of a truth beyond itself.

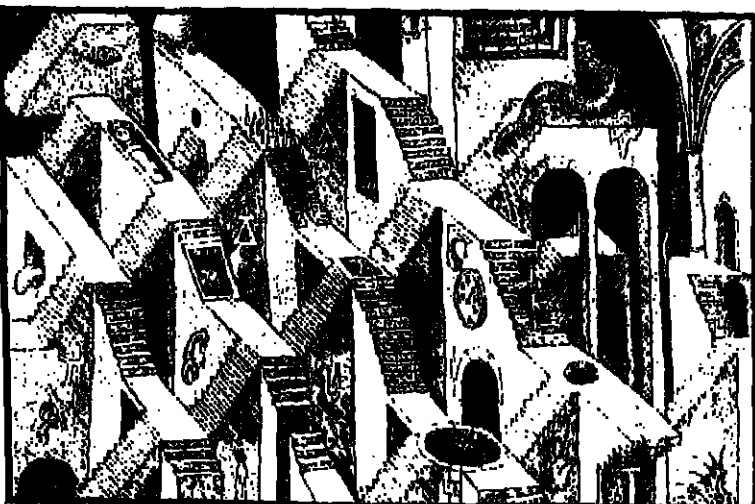
Robin Buss

Ungerer in Leicester

Beginning in Paris and traversing half Europe, the Tomi Ungerer Exhibition has now reached - Leicester. The reason for this unlikely venue seems chiefly to derive from the twinning that exists between that city and Strasbourg, where Ungerer was born and to which he has donated a huge quantity of his originals.

The exhibition was opened last week in a ceremony which reflected something of the unlikely nature of the twinning. The Chairman of Leicestershire County Council delivered an address of boorish ineptitude, which was followed by a graceful and perceptive speech by the Strasbourg representative (who spoke a rather better English). The impression was given that Leicester did not know or care much about Tomi Ungerer - who is one of the most forceful and skilled graphic artists of the present time - and this impression was reinforced by the rather casual mounting of this show.

A large gallery has been set aside for the 400 or so exhibits, which certainly gives the material the space it deserves (although some of the "forbidden" work has been deleted, since it is presumably too indecent for provincial English sensibilities). Very little effort has been made however to adapt the exhibition creatively to whatever audience is expected, the gallery having taken the easy option of using the standard catalogue and labels that



An illustration from *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*

began life with the Paris display. This means that the range and development of Ungerer's genius is not made clear, while some of the exhibits, which lack explanation or translation, may be incomprehensible.

The gallery is, however, making arrangements for guided tours and study sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays during the exhibition period and Leicestershire County Libraries are organizing some story-telling events. It is therefore doubly unfortunate that

the space devoted to Ungerer's published books is unnecessarily cramped and muddled, and that some of his finest picture books are seemingly out of print.

The exhibition lasts until October 28 and will then move to the Festival Hall in London for the New Year. Word has it that some much-needed improvements will be effected by then.

Brian Alderson

Silvered

Wolverhampton Education Authority put up a production budget of just over £12,000 for a recent youth theatre production of Ian Serraillier's adventure story, *The Silver Sword*, at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, which, it is hoped, will be the start of a continuing youth theatre activity in the borough.

With a cast of 65, the production, in a dramatization by Rony Robinson, involved 100 pupils drawn from every secondary school in the borough under the artistic direction of John Higgs, head of English at Clifton Hills School. English Adviser Mr Peter Davies explained that a big production in a large public theatre, (the Grand seats 1,500) had been chosen as the best way of focusing attention on the new youth theatre venture but that everyone concerned would be reviewing the success of the idea and looking at various ways ahead for the future.

Mr Davies added that "the interest from schools in the borough has been tremendous" with "most schools" making completely sold out, but he agreed that tickets for the evening performances of the week's run had not sold well.

Ann FitzGerald

Live version

Star Child. The Drama Company at Epsom Playhouse.

Ever since Messrs Rice and Lloyd Webber queered the pitch with *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, young Warren Butson came off best as the tuxedoed Herod. The baddies always do. "Somebody Had to Do It", he sang, but I, for one, was pleased it was he. Without a monopoly on the good looks, he still had the stage presence and style to lead the cast on stage and judge by the applause - most of the audience through any number of plaques and families.

Not that that is any criticism of the other members of the Drama Company. A new youth theatre drawing on the talents of the 13-20-year-olds of Stoneleigh, Sutton and Epsom in Surrey, it is clearly a company to watch, if this production of *Star Child* is anything to go by. Not every youth theatre, after all, can casually drop "most of its members have appeared in school or amateur productions" - and then add, after just a semi-colon, "some in the West End".

Hugh David

MYT season

Manchester Youth Theatre.

After the disappointing *Electric Blue*, this year's season hit top form with *The Golden Pathway Annual*. The acting was better, but as a youth theatre should accommodate varied abilities, that is not the point. What matters is that John Durnin's fluent direction focused the cast's energies in a series of brief, sharp characterizations. And the authorial Johns, Messrs Burrows and Harding, provide dialogue and situations that are both accessible and demanding for young actors. The triumph of this production lay in the performers' abilities to catch both the wild comic-book fantasy, which requires exaggeration, and the realism of the domestic scenes which must strike exact chords of recognition.

As Michael, the post-war baby whose first two decades are chronicled, John Turner managed to turn his six foot frame into a very convincing child, though his mature self was underpowered at the first performance. Among the supporting cast, who all play several roles, Alpha Hopkins and Mark Evans came over especially strongly.

Brightest of all were the scenes between Michael's parents (Donna Lytgoe and Tim Donnelly). Talent spotting is wicked on such occasions but, *mea culpa*, let me advise watching out again for Mr Donnelly.

At least Geoffrey Sykes' production of *Romeo and Juliet* gave its cast plenty of light, space and pace. The high spirits of the first hour were caught well; this was very much a comedy with

an unhappy ending. But *Romeo* needs deep feeling, well as high spirits, and teenage actors find certain teenage feelings very hard. James Shepley's *Romeo* manages some glimpses of passion. Amanda Craven as Juliet needs to relax her express performance; only came alive in the home of the prospect of marrying Paris.

Sharon Smith was a rough infectious nurse but too many characters dashed through her speeches without much sense or feeling. This grew worse as the evening drew on until a final scene of indifference that would have been better fully round the Capulet tomb. Then not much point in doing Shakespeare if you treat the verse with such respect.

The star of the season's final production could easily have been the first Gregory's Girl, adapted well from Forsyth's film by Andrew Bell (published by CUP). But it did not escape Catherine Ingram's made-uply adept production. Clear, quite inventive, on Liz Ascroft's skilful direction kept a cast of 40 strong and captured some of a current's quickly come obscure. Wrenched from the original Glaswegian tones, the vocal range varied, but the visual business, excellent - the cookery class should have induced instant lust. And it was perhaps less Gregory's than the girls'. As Dorothy, Jo Charles showed considerable command of the stage. Lisa Burt sounded too mature to be Gregory's younger sister but in all other respects gave a performance with a lot of self-control, while the few minutes were dignified by the alert performance of Helen Wilson as Gregory's eventual girl, Susan, 16 years, Lucien Heruine?

Timothy Ramsay

NYT time

National Youth Theatre: A Man For All Seasons. Jeannette Cochrane Theatre. Hamlet, Shaw Theatre.

The NYT has exploited the youth of the company in *A Man For All Seasons*, rather than attempting to disguise it. The result is pleasingly effective. What better cast, after all, to enact a struggle between ideals and pragmatism, than a group committed to a single ideal of young people's theatre?

Roger Wood's Thomas More is impressive - clear, still and confident, as if the spiritual steadfastness of More (who died at the age of 57, a good innings by standards of the time) somehow magically keeps him young. Ian Potter as the Common Man, a faintly Brechtian narrator figure, doesn't allow comedy to overshadow the character's importance to the play and yet still commands maximum attention from the audience. It seems appropriate that Thomas Cromwell, played with just the right amount of greasy cunning by Nicholas Pitt, seems older than everyone else, as if constant eye plotting has aged him prematurely. Despite an occasional pace problem, Edward Wilson's direction maintains a simple clarity, helped by a well thought out straightforward design. The idea, of course, is to listen to the argument rather than marvel at the theatricality, but you can't help gawping at Henry VIII - well interpreted as a subtly unpredictable bully by Lloyd Owen - in his magnificent cloth of gold

Spare part

Mother Courage. Theatre Foundry, Aldridge Comprehensive School, Walsall.

An audience of combined sixth forms from two Walsall schools listened with quiet concentration to Brecht's unique alchemy of spare, flat, prose heightened with moments of emotional tension.

Using Eric Bentley's translation, Theatre Foundry have found in the dialogue and lyrics of the songs, a tough, sly quality which, though not the contemporary speech of street impact, in listening you absorb the sense of waste and futility with which

outfit.

I wish I could be as complacent about Michael Croft's *Hamlet* as Shaw, but despite the dear obviously well rehearsed quality, the verse, the whole thing suffers. Shakespeare's worst enemy - simplification. The idea of setting the mid-nineteenth century play to point out the military background evokes some images that are disconcerting. Hamlet being chased by the courtiers after the murder of his father looks like a rugging from *Tom Brown at School*, and there's much to be said for the play but it does little more than suggest a pale imitation of *RSC's Nicholas Nickleby*. The real players and the production, all played, inexplicably, by the actors and Rachel Bell invests *Hamlet* with little more than "dark blonde" quality.

Marc Culwick as Hamlet is not fidgety, only achieving any while effect in one or two of his soliloquies. There's too much cynicism in his reading of the part and enough humanity. Oddly enough, playing of Claudius by Andrew Lacher achieves more sympathy than Hamlet does, not only because he is less mannered, but also because he end you can't feel anything else but irritation with this particular Hamlet. I'd have wanted him dead. Odd bits of the production do work. Some real style, particularly some of the early scenes at court and the scene with his excellent display of vicious swordplay. In the main, though, the idea behind the production clarifies the play but offers any worthwhile perspective on it.

Nick Baker

Brecht undermines the heroics of war. This production faithfully attempts the emotional barrenness of the play with a strong, brusque, performance from Eileen Pollock as the mother, Mother Courage, who is not a pity eventually gains in her own right. Helgerton's design focuses on the part itself, focusing on endless circles around a central well of space, surrounded by the audience on three sides, a backdrop of grey screens and walls.

The production tours to schools and colleges in the West Midlands region until October 19, and from October 26 to 26 visits Warrington, Preston, Lancaster and Manchester, returning to Wolverhampton on November 1. For booking details 021.526.4947.

Someone likes him

The Making of Neil Kinnock. By Robert Harris. Faber £9.95 and £4.95.

"Someone up there likes me": Neil Kinnock's famous remark, whimsical and relaxed as he walked away from the motorway wreck which could have been fatal, suitably heads one of the chapters in Robert Harris's briskly readable book. Good luck, as Harris repeatedly affirms, has indeed attended the meteoric rise of Labour's present leader: constantly protesting his lack of personal ambition, Kinnock seems to have accepted it as his automatic due.

The Making of Neil Kinnock is less an examination of roots than a chronicle of events: from the initial success in the surprise contest to stand for Beddewell, through the vicissitudes of his career, the equally vicissitudes years in the Shadow Cabinet, and up to the point where the crown was virtually handed him on a cushion, one of the main ingredients of that luck was an inalienable knack for being in the right place at the right time.

Mr Harris is a journalist, and he devotes a great deal of space to the thoughts and impressions of other journalists. He has interviewed some dozen key figures in an affable manner, and he has gone diligently through speeches and conference reports. The result may not be startlingly new (Labour's fall and Kinnock's rise have been exhaustively probed by Fleet Street) but as an account of the mechanics of recent political changes it is refreshingly clear. The sudden power-shift away from Parliament and towards the constituencies is presented in its brute simplicity: the internal collisions over Militant, re-selection, and Peter Tatchell's adoption for Bermondsey are all set in the context of the party's progressive self-destruction throughout 1981 and 1982.

Harris ends his account with Kinnock's election as leader - "the point at which the most important phase of his life begins. I have deliberately



When he was very young

avoided, therefore, making too many settled judgments". He concludes, however, with the judgment that Kinnock's chances of making it to Downing Street are reasonably good (assuming that, in some near-miraculous way, Labour either manage to destroy the Alliance or come to terms with it). Is that judgment a reasonable one? On the basis of this book, yes.

Kinnock emerges here as red-blooded, impulsive, verbose, and - to Labour audiences - invincibly charming. As his speeches show, and as his initially innocent attitude to the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy corroborates, he is instinctively rather than analytically. But another quality emerges also: his courage, even when unpopular (and he loves to be loved) is the result. Time and again as a Shadow minister he refused to promise to abolish overnight the evils the Tories had wrought; he attacked Tony Benn repeatedly for promising just that; that earned him the vilification of the Left, but he stuck to his guns. At a local level he refused to support devaluation, and had to absorb the rage of the Welsh socialists who had always been the constituents about whom he cared most.

Harris's account of the "making" itself is both perfunctory and repetitive. Kinnock, we learn for the 10th time, comes from a quintessentially "Labour" background: forbears named and stunted by working in coal and steel, parents devoted and vicariously ambitious, school irreverent, college the big opportunity. Clays the tower of strength. Harris is politically acute, but psychologically crude. Does this matter? Not much. This is neither the first biography of Kinnock nor, by a long chalk, will it be the last.

Michael Church

Timely plea

English Studies 11-18. Edited by Bernard T. Harrison. Hodder and Stoughton £4.95. 340 33157 7.

"This book is addressed to all teachers of English; in particular it has been compiled on behalf of those English teachers who are unwilling to submit their classes merely to a prison diet of course texts and exercises." So begins Mr Harrison's introduction to his collection of essays on different aspects of English teaching over the secondary school age range.

Sometimes romantic, often incidentally nostalgic, it is a reminder of those heady days of the Sixties when every English teacher let the children write and English was for maturity. Sadly, that excitement of writing faded as what was supposed to be a language for life deteriorated into something like the diet of basics that Mr Harrison so rightly deplores. Consequently such a well-orchestrated series of pleas for a return to an arts-based approach to English is timely. It is certainly a while since Matthew Arnold was cited so approvingly in a book for teachers.

There are chapters on the need for creative talk within the classroom, Peter Abbs writes about the importance of children's personal writing and the necessity of linking creativity with critical study, while Alan England explores the creative use of dramatic texts in English. A moving plea that remedial work should not be merely a matter of hammering the basics is followed by a typically direct and very useful essay on the selection of fiction

and its presentation to younger secondary pupils by Helen and Colin Pearce, with a parallel chapter on the needs of the fourth year by David Allen. There are also inspiring chapters on poetry, film and television, and creative work in the sixth form.

In his introduction, Mr Harrison approvingly refers to a book published 40 years ago, Robin Collingwood's *Principles of Art*, in which the author criticizes the Greeks for using "a blanket term", *tekhné*, to refer to arts and crafts. Mr Harrison, echoing Mr Collingwood, stresses that art must not be confused with craft. Now while I accept that division, and (with Mr Harrison) would argue strongly against language-work divorced from content, I cannot accept that the school subject, English, does not embrace a craft. The nurture of an effective and, yes, stylish transactional mode of writing must surely fall within this strange subject. Even in a book which so necessarily reintroduces aesthetics into the classroom, there might have been room for a chapter on such matters. It would not have weakened this so welcome rallying cry against "mean-spirited utilitarianism".

David Self

A Dictionary of Education, edited by P. J. Hills (Routledge £6.95) makes a welcome appearance in paperback. Compiled with the aid of 100 expert specialists, alphabetical list of terms in the main areas of the field, and supplemented by numerous suggestions for further reading.

BOOKS

Life-saving for beginners

Peter Parker on a brilliantly simple health education scheme for Third World children

Good Food and A Simple Cure. By Colette Hawes. A Sad Story. By Shân Griffith Pinnas. Down with Fever. By Paula Edwards. Accidents. By Hugh Haves. Teaching Dant. By Keith Lowe. Dirty Water. By Ken Crippwell. The Child-to-Child Programme. Price £10.00 the set which will include The Answer Team. Available from The Institute of Child Health, 30 Guildford Street, London WC1N 1EH.

Anyone who travels beyond the Western world can dispense with statistics. The population explosion swarms like children toward evening, and it is only later that you notice the infrequency of the old, or realize what it means for a society to have to run in order to stay still.

But with health care the running can take several routes. There is the widely publicized and much criticized strategy of building hospitals to provide the privileged with international medical standards. There is the policy of setting up local clinics usually staffed by nurses and other paramedics, since doctors tend to congregate in cities; and there are attempts to train practitioners of traditional medicine, especially midwives, in the use of Western techniques, and then to supply them with appropriate implements.

Professor David Morley and his colleagues associated with London University's Institute of Child Health have taken the next step. Rather than merely (and inevitably inadequately) multiplying the number of professionals - and thereby also nurturing the disabling relationship of expert of supplicant - they aim to improve the individual's own understanding of the ways to avoid disease. They have come up with the enterprising idea of teaching English and preventive medicine together in a set of seven English language readers; an eighth, beguilingly entitled "The Answer Team", will be available shortly.

These books are graded either level one or level three, using a vocabulary of either 500 or 1,500 words and cover topics as diverse as the perils of dirty water, the vigilance necessary to prevent accidents, the importance of avoiding sweet drinks and maintaining a balanced diet, and how to treat fever. Professor Morley is one of the most respected authorities on child health in less developed countries, so although it goes without saying that the information presented is accurate, happily the message is also clear, the presentation uncluttered, and most importantly the advice is precise and relevant.

The needs of English language teachers are not ignored either. The various authors have taken care to use vocabulary consistently, to repeat points of grammar and round off each book with drills, comprehension exercises and "homework" often of a distinctly vigorous kind. *Dirty Water* closes thus: "Go down to the river and pull out of the river all the old bottles and pieces of rubbish. Dig a hole and put everything into it. Or burn it on a

big fire." Or as an alternative "Go down to the river or pond where you get water. Can you count how many of these things you can kill? Mosquitoes. Cockroaches. Flies."

But not everyone responds to rational persuasion, however repetitive. These books have learnt something from our own unimpressive record on preventing alcohol and drug abuse, smoking and unhealthy diets. The authors rightly concentrate their efforts on the young. They provide a credible social world, where brothers, sisters and cousins rather than mothers and fathers are responsible for much parenting, most supervision and many attitudes. English is the gateway to higher education, and education the prerequisite for advancement, so to have targeted those young with the motivation to be successful and the energy to be influential was a particularly astute piece of marketing.

One book is quite rightly devoted to the simple and life saving technique of oral rehydration therapy. Instructions are given on how to make a basic measure out of a pencil, a cork tin and a bottle top so that the right quantities of salt, sugar and water can be given to young children with acute diarrhoea.

But character and plot provide the heart of any story, and as every soap opera addict knows, public information announcements are the more effective for appealing to the imagination. Judged by this standard the books are somewhat patchy. *Good Food* all but gives up the attempt to tell a story and merely prints a series of dos and don'ts, and then uses the wooden formula of juxtaposing good sense

with good fortune and disaster with stupidity. In *Down With Fever* an arrogant and ignorant aunt, Mrs. That's-Not-Right, stands in the way of progress, and forever criticizes her niece for believing and acting on the sound knowledge of her more enlightened school teacher. As with all moral tales good advice like virtue is richly rewarded (in this case accurately) with life and happiness. Ken Crippwell's *Dirty Water* is the most imaginative and gripping story in this collection. With a minimum of language he tells how a young boy dreams he is shrunk to the size of an ant, and then engages in a life and death struggle against the lowering and polluted environment that encircles him.

One important omission should be filled quickly: smoking is ignored, even though tobacco companies are increasing their sales efforts in the third world to their considerable profit. Publicizing the dangers of cigarettes would help to maintain the member definition of a developed country: one where lung cancer kills more people than tuberculosis.

Many people will be grateful for this collaborative project, whose value is well represented by *A Sad Story*. Mr Eye Patch and Mr Gummy become walking illustrations of the importance of personal hygiene for those who want to preserve their sight and their teeth. It is a neat device to have these victims of past ignorance present their own life stories to pupils in the classroom, and one which many teachers will surely want to copy.

THE NATURE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Andrew Goudie

There has long been a need for an up-to-date and comprehensive introduction to the natural environment of the Earth. This book fulfils that need, and is concerned throughout to show how different processes interact at different scales - global, zonal and local. The book is informed by the latest advances in theory and research. Lucidly written and extensively illustrated, it will surely become the standard text in this demanding and crucial field.

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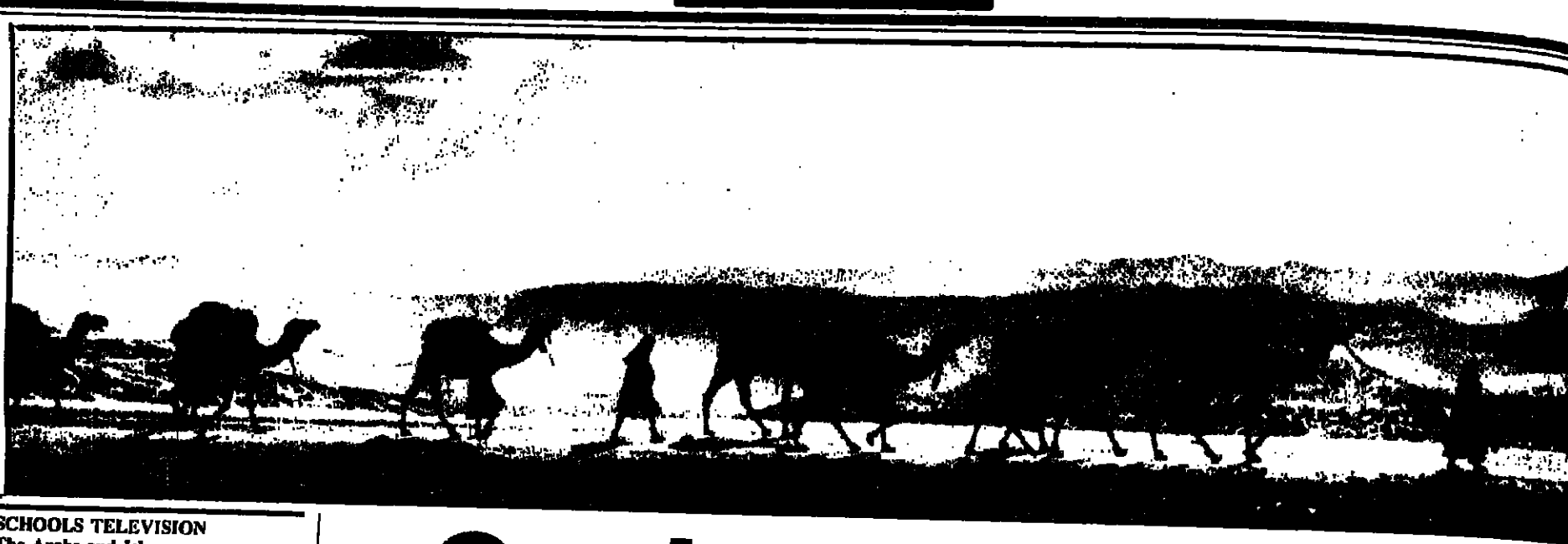
The 85-minute cassette will be enormous use as a "trigger" to initiate discussion by disabled groups, the families and counsellors. Although such discussions need delicate handling, the thorough background information has been designed so that, if necessary, they can be led by non-specialist laymen.

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Sands of time

Victoria Neumark on BBC Schools' representation of 'The Arabs and Islam'

SCHOOLS TELEVISION
The Arabs and Islam
Zig Zag
BBC2, Mondays 11.00 am
Repeated Wednesdays 2.40 pm
Starting September 17
Teacher's notes available 75p, also pupils' book 95p.

Zig Zag's new unit is very welcome. Not only do Muslims form a quarter of the world's population but they are growing in number in Britain. These programmes form a useful introduction for the lower junior age group to the basic ideas of Islam, the achievements of medieval Arab civilization, life in an Arab country today and the problems facing those living in deserts. There are a few caveats, however. It is not made clear enough that by no means all the Muslims in the world today are Arab - particularly impor-

tant since the Muslims in the actual classroom are most likely to be from the Indian sub-continent. Not a single woman, except for the co-presenter, is shown in any kind of prominence; when a child's day in modern Tunisia is followed the child is a boy, when a child in Britain is shown, it is also a boy. Women may not have any public life in much of Arab culture and history, but they do exist, and so do Muslim girls in the classrooms of Britain today. Veils, purdah and arranged marriages are the aspects of Muslim life which

many children are most familiar with. It would have been better not to have skirted over this, admittedly touchy, area. In their eagerness to be totally "multi-cultural" the producers have somewhat twisted historical fact. It is perfectly true that at the time of the Crusades the Arabs had a richer and more sophisticated culture than the Europeans, but it is nonsense to dismiss the culture which produced Gothic architecture, the intricacies of scholastic thought, illustrated missals and plainsong as "backyard". Likewise

to attribute to the Arabs all the advances in science and medicine of which they were master is pointlessly to simplify the facts. The supreme virtue of Arab civilization was its ability to absorb the best of the cultures which it contacted: Greek learning, Chinese technology, Indian mathematics and chess. That syncretism more than Arab culture *per se* was what opened the floodgates of the Renaissance as the Crusaders returned to Europe. Finally, more stress on the actual dates of events would be useful for engaging in this sort of historical

comparison.

Most of these are, on the whole, faults in no bad direction. The average indigenous British child of Arabs and Islam are so exotic and incomprehensible. Watching greater wheels turning in the desert, a camel auction or above all pilgrims at Mecca and the madly ripping in prayer like fields of wheat are images which must give some sense of the strength and vitality of Islam.

Watching children in school, lies eating breakfast, the limited patterned tiles in Mosques and steamy relaxation in the bathhouse must add to our sense of the humanity. In addition, there is a deal of material in the series accompanying literature which can be used for geography, science, and creative writing and even computer studies (design your own tile).

Keyboard cops

SCHOOLS TELEVISION
Job Bank
BBC2, Mondays 9.15 am
Repeated Tuesdays 11.40 am
Starting September 17.

Schools television has brought together much of the previous programmes from the *Going to Work* and *A Good Job with Prospects* series into one entity called *Job Bank*. Both are in the established and very useful tradition of short, simple films, ideal for use with small groups and perfect for individuals with specific career interests, particularly if they form part of a video careers library. Well produced information sheets are available for all the programmes, including two new ones, *Supporting the Police* and *Keyboard Skills*.

Supporting the Police may well have an application outside the careers classroom because as well as dealing with possible openings for civilian work, it also provides a fascinating look at some aspects of "behind the scenes" work. As well as storemen, clerks, engineers and typists, the police employ civilian scientific officers who work in forensic laboratories and fingerprint officers. The programme outlines the work of both, showing how the non-cop has a large

part to play in the detection of crime. The fingerprint officer, whose main qualification seems to be good eyesight and a grim determination to search through literally hundreds of thousands of files will ultimately be replaced by faster, more accurate computers.

The programme also shows us the work of those masters of fact and diplomacy, traffic wardens. Nowadays, more and more 18-year-olds are applying for the initial three weeks training, which is followed by a probationary period on the beat. It's apparent that their youthful charm works better than the bluff authoritarian approach favoured by the older ex-servicemen types who flocked to join when the warden force was introduced.

Computers are to the fore in the other new programme, *Keyboard Skills*, although somewhat disappointingly, this programme seems to be more concerned with learning the skills (which many school pupils already do) than finding a job in which they can practise them. After a jolly opening series showing some weird and wonderful old QWERTY boards, we watch some young people who work in the computer games industry, are taken to Brixton Information Technology Centre where unemployed young people are given training

in computer basics, and visit a typing school where the trainees are put through a rigorous automated touch typing course, complete with flashing lights and recorded voices. We also meet a radio secretary - not the sort of that the majority of school-leavers hope to get and some suggest checkout trainees who have to learn touch type their (automatic) secretaries and on checkout, the second is the lack of discussion of the future of the keyboard. YES, we will be familiar with the different opinions as to whether the keyboard will forever be necessary in computer operation, or whether it will be replaced by something more useful and less difficult to use. A good example comes with the supermarket checkout till, already upgraded to some American stores to "read" and price information on items as they are scanned. All the same, the programmes make useful educational use of the series and should provide teachers with a little more needed source material.

Nick Bate

Wine-dark seas

SCHOOL RADIO
The Wanderer
Radio 4VHF
Thursdays 2.20pm
Starting September 27.

Leon Garfield admits to "going easy on the naughty bits", but that's all. As a result, one particular side of Circe's character is about the only punch that's pulled in *The Wanderer*, his new adaptation of Homer's *Odyssey*. Technically and artistically, the live-part series which begins in *Living Language* on September 27 is a startlingly effective piece of radio drama. Not only do Garfield's scripts skilfully re-create something of the muscular, evocative language of the original (remember those wine-dark seas?), with their truly, frequently bloody-bills-

ty details they are also singularly suited to the tastes of the 9 to 11-year-old *Living Language* target audience. A strong cast, led by National Theatre player Nicky Henson as Odysseus, and producer Janet Whittaker clearly revelled in the opportunities they presented. It is, after all, not every day that a school radio programme calls for scenes set in the dank cave of the Cyclops one moment and on the clouded summit of Mount Olympus the very next. Nor is there often the time, money or reason to commission the elaborate sequences of music and electronic effects (in this case specially created by Jonathan Gibbs of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop) which are such a feature of *The Wanderer*.

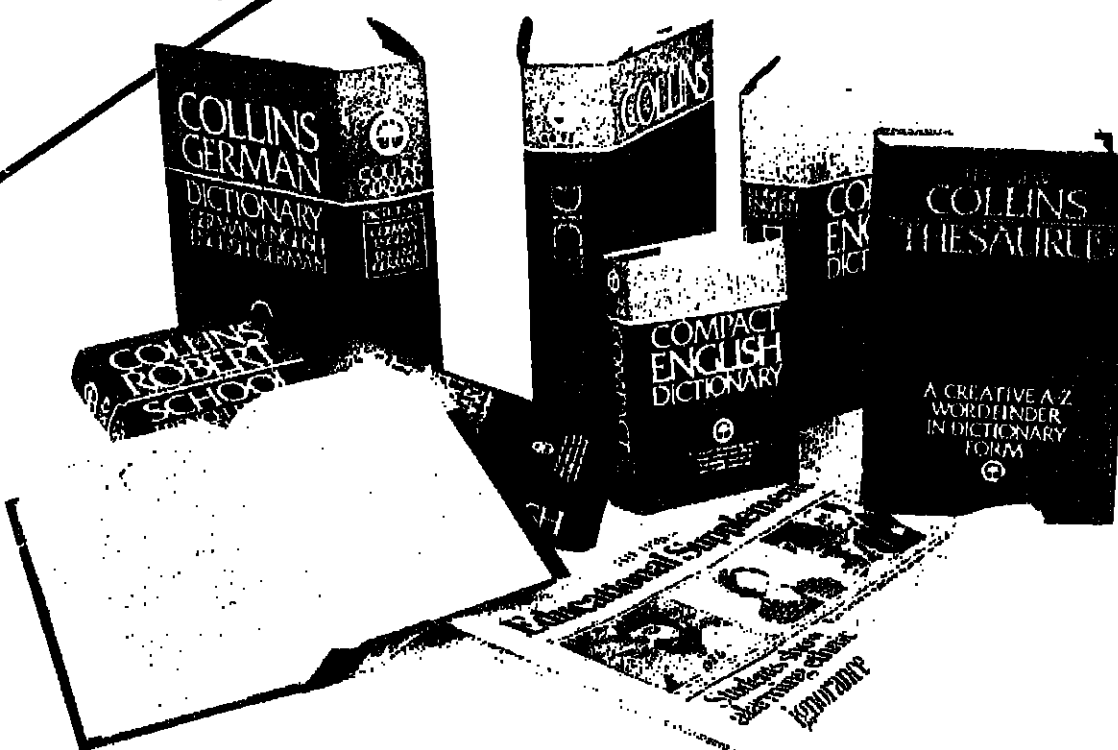
Preceded by a radiovision programme introducing *The Gods of the Greeks*, but quite capable of standing without it, the series is rightly being heralded as the major event of the *Living Language* term. Not only does it set new standards for school radio drama, it is also interesting in that it shows Leon Garfield breaking new ground: familiar as some of the con-



try's best-selling children's novelist, and no stranger to broadcasting (the *Holborn* has just been serialised on television, the ever-popular *Smith* has been read recently on Radio 4), he admits that *The Wanderer* has whetted his appetite for writing original radio drama. It is just a pity that so far only one fortunate few previewers have experienced the full impact of *The Wanderer*, for the series has been made in stereo. There must be a reason for that, although (initially at least) it is to be broadcast in normal mono on the radio. Stay tuned for further details.

Hugh Jones

SCHOOL STAFFROOM CROSSWORD COMPETITION



T

he Times Educational Supplement and Collins Dictionaries invite entries from School Staffrooms. There are over 50 prizes to be won. The competition is also open to other readers of The TES. Non-members of a school staff should sponsor a school of their choice to be the recipient of any prize. The winning entries will be the first correct solutions opened from those submitted or the next most nearly correct. All entries should be accompanied by the official entry form to be found in the September 21 issue of The TES or on the Collins Dictionaries leaflet mailed to secondary schools (ie no photocopies). The solution to the puzzle and the names of the winning schools will be announced in The TES on November 9. No employees, or their relatives, of The Times Supplements or William Collins & Co Ltd are eligible to enter. Send your entry to Collins Publishers (TES/Collins Competition), PO Box, Glasgow G4 0NB, postmarked not later than Friday October 19.

**OVER
£3,000
WORTH
OF PRIZES**

A draw will be made from the names of all the 51 prize-winning schools and the staffroom of the school drawn will receive a case of sherry.

P

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- 6 1st prizes of books to the value of £150
- 10 2nd prizes of books to the value of £100
- 15 3rd prizes of books to the value of £75
- 20 consolation prizes of one copy of the New Collins Thesaurus (£7.95)
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes may be taken as books for the school library selected from the Collins Catalogue or as class sets of the following:
- £4.95 Collins/Robert School French Dictionary (25 copies rate at £100)
- £4.50 Collins Pocket English Dictionary (20 copies rate at £75)
- £3.25 The New Collins Compact English Dictionary (20 copies rate at £50)



**COLLINS
DICTIONARIES**

THE TIMES

Educational Supplement

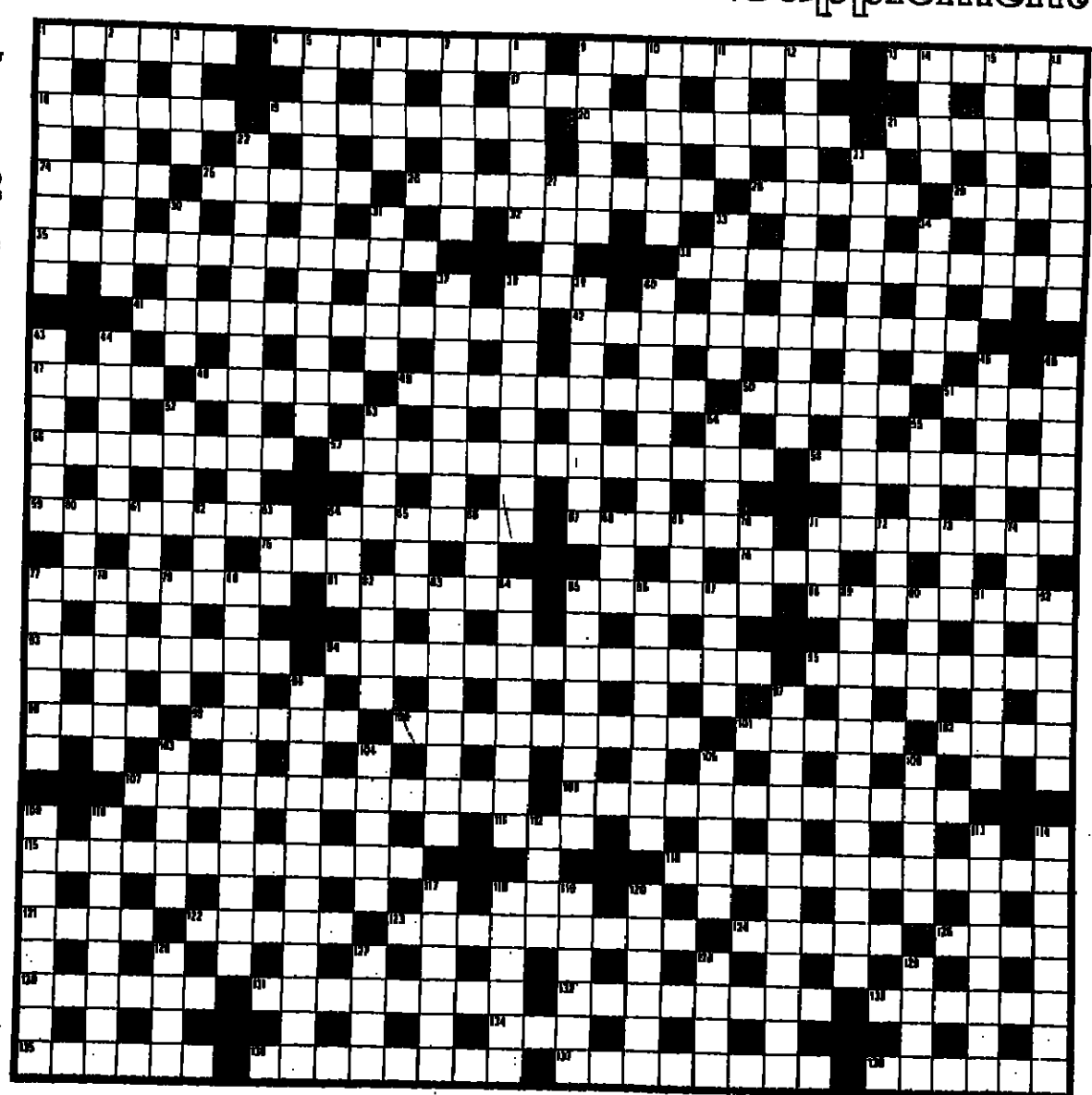
ACROSS

- 1 Wisely arch about how old one is (6)
- 2 It will contain a fire (8)
- 3 Prepare for play-time (8)
- 13 Desert springs keep it going (6)
- 17 One may take a rest with this shooting-stick (3)
- 18 One who may play for the school - one in new boots (6)
- 19 One Nebuchadnezzar fired settled for hard cash (8)
- 20 Worn after the Boat-race? (8)
- 21 Mount framing spirit in his element (6)
- 24 A catch one is delighted to exhibit (4)
- 25 Which's last choice of abode? (5)
- 26 They favour dictation above all their subjects (9)
- 28 One of Sheridan's competitors (5)
- 29 Celebrated kind of Chinese pottery (4)
- 32 Allow the tenant to move in (3)
- 35 They don't meet in the gymnasium (8,4)
- 36 His pupils are encouraged to make notes (5,7)
- 38 Little fellow not depressed, but confused (3)
- 41 Train-bearers (7,5)
- 42 The price of a suit? (5,7)
- 47 One may get one's hooks into them (4)
- 48 They play big parts in children's tales (5)
- 49 Oral might be set for mathematics (9)
- 50 Class system moulded on the orient (5)
- 51 A stage joke turned famous with the passage of time (4)
- 56 Leaving open (8)
- 57 I shout out in class? Absolutely (13)
- 58 Charles' tree-house? (8)
- 59 Greek costume perhaps (8)
- 64 A round game perhaps (3,3)
- 67 Big cuts she makes in fuel (6)
- 71 They're designed to raise oil production (8)
- 74 A party activity (3)
- 76 One may see one in the museum of Natural History (3)
- 77 Changed class in a rush (8)
- 81 Chocolate left out (6)
- 85 Limited to one's outlook (6)
- 88 TV's pop group? (4,4)
- 93 Cart opponent of Cromwell (8)
- 94 Air force degrees? (8,5)
- 95 I am getting stout as a business man (8)
- 98 It may be proper for a sister to admit nothing (4)
- 99 Rules unpopular with schoolboys (5)
- 100 They're laid across the line of flight (3,4)
- 101 Silly things, but capital letters (5)
- 102 An element of quartz in crystal (4)
- 103 Not a short class in arithmetic (4,4)
- 106 Unlikely errors made by chairman's son (12)
- 111 I have the earth for the sun (3)
- 115 Old angles are what a scalene triangle has (7,5)
- 116 He couldn't stop the salt pouring out (7,5)
- 118 Bird shows mother love at heart (3)
- 122 Get the pitch in good order (4)
- 123 Show into Fox's house (5)
- 124 Anne Brontë's alternative instruction to boxer (5,4)
- 125 A collector's keen in flight (5)
- 126 Snick a boundary (8)
- 129 German verb (6)
- 131 Demonstrates a method of quarantining (8)
- 132 He is superior to other pupils? (8)
- 133 Charm, finish and musical ability (8)
- 134 The schoolmaster's usual address (3)
- 135 Fitting ends for pieces of wood (6)
- 136 City investment? (8)
- 137 Victorian poet getting snubbed (8)
- 138 Straighten things out and become more friendly (6)

DOWN

- 1 Allow no beatings for substitutes (4-4)
- 2 Subject that's taught after midnight, yet

- 3 Smaller boy absent from lessons (4)
- 5 Distinctive attire for a youngster - a pioneer in education? (6,6)
- 6 Completes part of a game of bowls (4)
- 7 Domestic storm centre (3-3)
- 8 and 9 It will tell how a youngster in form is doing (6,6)
- 10 He has a great many old slaves (6)
- 11 Half the alphabet studied by physicists (4)
- 12 Particular course explored by the physics master, perhaps (8,4)
- 14 Gownless back in nursery education (4)
- 15 Cry of one hurt in unpolished carriage (8)
- 16 Self banking type of aircraft (8)
- 22 News the teacher would welcome in any form? (12)
- 23 Skillful manoeuvre once used to discipline a pupil? (12)
- 27 Inside accommodation (4)
- 30 It won't throw much light on the subject (5)
- 31 Monster fish? (5)
- 32 Two-party lights (5)
- 34 Supporter of the school board (5)
- 37 Rude lines not altered? (8)
- 38 Get out, and look inside, a dish of meat (8)
- 39 Hitting a number in error (8)
- 40 Creaked luncheon (3-5)
- 43 He created a dish fit for the gods! (6)
- 44 One side of Glasgow (6)
- 45 It describes a foot in metres (6)
- 46 Springs, often underground (6)
- 52 It may be produced by carbon monoxide to a degree (4)
- 53 But a change will be forbidden (4)
- 54 Unhappy sportswoman? (4)
- 55 Mark some exam papers carefully (4)
- 60 Love of French poetry (3)
- 61 A American river port (3)
- 62 He may get beaten if he appears again (5)
- 63 Not happy with some people's advice (3)
- 64 Cut price lettuce? (3)
- 65 Greek letter, reading it one gives an audible sigh (3)
- 66 Breathe in need of medical care (3)
- 68 Unlimited choice? (3)
- 69 Circle in never-never dance (3)
- 70 One needs a very short time to get dry (3)
- 71 Such a cheque will bounce up and down (3)
- 72 A punitive measure (3)
- 73 She's peak form in Crete (3)
- 74 I'm after a letter written by Kipling (3)
- 77 French writer is a recognized artist on films (6)
- 78 Approve of an indication of support (6)
- 79 What a teacher calls a small loaf perhaps (4)
- 80 The aim of equal education? (7,5)
- 82 A row about it matters (4)
- 83 It plays without music (8)
- 84 Time soon modifies feelings (8)
- 85 Staff for which a friend has a hide-out turned over (8)
- 86 Road I can build in the islands (8)
- 87 Vain and averse to work (4)
- 89 An incoming charge (9,3)
- 90 An overworked children's home (4)
- 91 Give an account of prices to the general public (6)
- 92 One hundred in a cathedral city, said to be poor (6)
- 96 Doctor's case perhaps, in the gymnasium (8,4)
- 97 You and Eve, for example (6,6)
- 103 It's socially acceptable in a class debate (5)
- 104 A statement which may be ill construed (5)
- 105 Instrument of torture the Incas never had (8)
- 106 I am on time for the picture (5)
- 109 Not quite free to give the result of the division (8)
- 110 New language about New York poet (8)
- 112 Most producers get no uplift from university (4)



JUMBO CROSSWORD NO. 2
FOR TES/COLLINS. Compiled by Rufus.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

School:
Address:
Name of Contact at School
School sponsor:

Readout or work out? continued

wizards who direct our courses by the equipment with which they supply us.

Arthur

Dear Arthur,

I am not sure whether you are complaining about the way life has changed, or about educational principles. Disappearance of the need to worry about parallax is surely on a par with the passing of the ritual of filling fountain pens from bottles of ink: there is physics in both, but now you can pursue them for themselves alone rather than from necessity. Like most Luddites, you deny that you are one. If it is to be a Luddite to have no more justification for action than discomfort with change, then I note that your arguments are flavoured with nostalgia.

It is not a flaw of science that its data are dissociated from sense impressions, it is its glory. It is a central part of its struggle to escape from the isolating and controversial subjectivity of impressions and feelings to a world of

data about which all can agree, so that we can begin to talk to one another about what they mean. It is no accident that the community of scientists transcends cultural and political barriers more easily than any other group. To be sure, this "objectivity" can be overrated by those who forget the assumptions behind the paradigms of measurement, but this is a problem of doing science, to be accepted and understood, rather than avoided.

Perhaps part of what is happening to you is that as a biologist you are feeling discomfort as your subject acquires a proper basis in physics and chemistry. In any event, some of the feelings of comfort in being in contact with reality are spurious. Universal indicator was as magical and remote to me when I first encountered it as any electronic probe. No amount of staring at coloured liquids can convert hydrogen ion concentration from an abstract concept to an experienced phenomenon.

However, perhaps there is a serious core to your argument. Principles of measurement may be so obscured by the new technology that the users become slaves rather than masters in their own workshops. Since the tyrant

instruments will have to be used sooner or later, this argument is only really saying that we should first use older existing measurement methods, to emphasize principles, and then approach the new methods better equipped to control them.

At a superficial level, this strategy would need to be planned with careful discrimination. A spring stretching may be more transparent than a digital read-out balance (when Hooke's law is obvious?). But what about mercury going up a glass capillary for temperature or that awful thing on one's arm when the doctor makes my blood pressure go up by forcing me to feel my thumping pulse? Are these transparent or merely familiar?

I have still not brought the argument to principles. One way of finding out what the principles are is to look for features that persist through change. If the modern technology of instrumentation appeared to escape from or bury the principles of its craft, one might indeed question whether they were principles at all. But I would argue that the new technology exhibits the principles more clearly than before. Any measurement device consists of a transducer, converting the

phenomenon to be quantified into an effect that can be measured, and then a device which produces numbers from that secondary effect. If I have an array of probes, one for temperature, one for pressure, one for pH, one for magnetic field and so on, each of which is connected by wires to the same digital read-out meter, then that principle is exhibited in clear form by the very structure of the equipment.

With such an array, I can begin to teach the difference between transducer and read-out by pointing to probes and to boxes. Contrast this with an attempt to make the same point with coloured indicators, mercury-in-glass thermometers, and spring balances. The point is just as valid, but the discussion would then seem like one more of these attempts at abstract elaboration that pupils spot coming just before they switch their attention to the world outside the laboratory window.

The task of teaching principles needs more careful thought, and I welcome your letter because it may provoke that thought. Part of the problem is to teach about the electronic digital read-out. This can't be made transparent, but it could be exhibited

(or manufactured) as a set of lighting units which receive no signal, amplify it where necessary, convert it to digital form, and then display it on a digital read-out. The fact that the transducer produces the same output, an electrical signal, is understood about this problem.

Life would be simpler if these were digitized to start with. I can still feel your pulse at the end of this argument!

Which of us is the Devil's Advocate? What is in Arthur's reply to me?

Paul Black is Professor of Science and Mathematics Education at the Centre for Studies in the Centre.

A local initiative in primary science

by Roy Purnell

Science in the real sense of the word is more often than not absent in today's primary schools. The following activities pose as science: children being compelled to copy reams from "science" books, flowers and twigs placed in random fashion on the nature table or table of death, posters being covered with leaves (art not science), children struggling to attract objects with feebly powered lumps of metal mistakenly called magnets.

The excellent publication, *Science 5-13* in most schools acts as a chalk dust collector. Many teachers pay lip service to the subject, forming a fictitious slot on the timetable, many ignore the subject because of an innate fear. The teacher is a lonely person and is expected to produce a reader, a mathematician, an artist, a footballer,

and now a scientist, from some very unpromising materials, and support in many cases is patchy and at the local level can often be non-existent.

Teachers are, however, honest people and they recognize their own deficiencies. They can produce the answers to most teaching problems if they are given the time and are not being distracted by their pupils. Recognizing the situation and being aware of the high unemployment among teachers, I decided to approach the Manpower Services Commission and offer a sustained effort to get its support to set up a team of unemployed but trained personnel.

The MSC team "Mark 1" model consisted of a supervisor, June Holmes, three trained but relatively inexperienced teachers, and a graphic



Science for children with learning difficulties - a team discussion with (left to right) Gill Presser, Roy Purnell (Project Director), June Ann Kean (Project Supervisor), Pat Thomas and Yvonne Skidmore

designer. Members of the team had to be trained teachers to be acceptable to the teaching profession. The personnel, other than June Holmes, had no formal science training. Thus they could recognize and appreciate the traumas and difficulties experienced by today's teachers in the introduction of science to primary school children, being at the same level of competence regarding the subject.

Trained scientists are regarded with suspicion, inviting remarks like "It is easy for you, you know the answers". Teachers are also wary (probably with good reason) of college lecturers with their whizz-bang approach and often condescending ways. With this arrangement, it was possible for discussion between teacher and team member to be on common ground.

The team was installed in a basement room of a hostel in Gwent College of Higher Education at Caerleon. Working with a minimum of supervision the members researched, read, discussed and argued about ideas for science experiments for young children.

The college-produced work was tested in local schools with catchment areas ranging from a mining community to a city centre to a rural environment. The team would then refine, improve or discard and retest the work in a different school.

Teachers and heads were eager to cooperate, recognizing the deficiencies in science. By the end of the first year, sets of workbooks on about eight topics were produced for infant, lower junior and upper junior children. Each topic containing approximately 12 cards was also supported by teaching notes. As a result of the efforts roughly 30,000 tried and tested science workbooks were distributed free to the schools in the county.

Some schools acquired the cards and hoarded them in the stock cupboard, many used them as their "only science", and some used them to supplement their existing teaching of the subject. The locality of the production was a local, a major factor in its popularity.

In designing the cards we were

conscious that they had to be attractive and contain science which was appropriate in terms of relevance to children's ability, be clear, show development in the subject, and above all, be science and not just child occupation. After an experiment had been finalized by the process previously mentioned the graphic designer constructed a mastercopy and the required number of copies was produced on an offset litho at the college.

Dissolve or Not Dissolve.		
Copy this table.	Dissolve	Not Dissolve
1. salt		
2. sand		
3. coffee		
4. soil		
5. stones		
6. lard		
7. sugar		

Put the things in a jar of water. Use clean water for each thing. Do they dissolve?

Make a ✓ in the table for each one.

One of the topic workbooks

Recognizing the deficiencies and being heartened by the response, more money was raised from the MSC and a new, enlarged team was employed. Rooms in the college were at a premium and so for the second year the researchers used an empty classroom in a nearby infants' school. The personnel were a supervisor, Anne Kean, promoted because of her superb drive and efficiency as a researcher in year one, two graphic designers, and five researchers.

The "Mark 2" team, building upon the expertise and success of the previous year, improved and refined the package, producing cards with a greater awareness of children's ability. Approximately 40,000 cards were manufactured, and as we could not satisfy the previous year's demand the distribution this time around had to be more selective instead of a blanket offer to every school in Gwent.

The material was again used, statistically and in diverse ways. Cards were used as part of a lesson. The whole class used the same experiment using glass copies, groups of children would use one set of cards while another would try another. Infants who were successfully using cards for lower junior, and secondary schools were using cards which had been planned for the upper junior.

January this year saw the start of "Mark 3" team sponsored once again by the MSC. Using similar tactics to those employed in the previous years the eight researchers, now unemployed teachers, are now for two-and-a-half days a week, paid at Burnham rates.

Further to these activities, local schools are being established as science centres for neighbouring schools. This scheme local schools use the college as a location to bring children to, undisturbed, a centre to receive a develop fruitful science activities.

For the first two years of the project the lecturers involved have been self and Peter Johnston, who joined the team in year three. Gwent College of Higher Education, recognizing the spin-off that occurred, has been enthusiastic in support.

What was and is still being achieved. Teachers have been full of praise regarding the content, presentation and interest value of the cards. They have also been particularly impressed by their clarity and lack of fear of subject they discovered has been subject qualities that they have been recommended to other teachers. A leading educational publisher has shown interest in the scheme and wishes to use the experience gained to publish a similar set of science cards not too distant future.

Dr Roy Purnell is project director based at Gwent College of Higher Education, Caerleon, Gwent.

A sense of satisfaction

Cathy Wilson on the development of ASE validated courses for science teachers

In February of 1980 at a time when the Association for Science Education was preparing its official policy statement, two of its officers presented to the ASE Council a discussion paper on validation and accreditation.

This paper argued that by setting an awarding body for nationally recognized diplomas in science education at primary and secondary levels, the association would become more involved in the in-service training of science teachers and hence could influence more effectively the teaching of science in schools.

Just over four years later the first teachers were awarded the ASE Certificate in Science Teaching (Primary). They had satisfactorily completed courses approved by the Validation Board, which had been established by the association in 1982. In approving these first awards, members of the board experienced a strong sense of landmark and achievement - and a landmark in the life of the association had been reached.

Not all the comment was favourable, but much valuable and constructive criticism was received and as a result a decision was taken that in primary science, two levels of award should be offered. Revised criteria were drawn up to cover awards in primary science at certificate and diploma level, the former relating to courses appropriate to experienced primary teachers with no formal science qualifications and designed to equip such teachers to make a positive contribution to the teaching of science in their own classrooms, and the latter relating to courses appropriate to teachers with some science background and experience of teaching primary science. The emphasis in diploma courses is on the development of science education in the context of the whole school, and the courses aim to develop management skills and the leadership role, for it is intended that holders of the diploma will assist with staff development in the field of science in their own school, or in groups of schools locally. The hallmark of ASE awards is the enhancement of professional expertise, and a substantial

in-school component is an essential requirement of all ASE approved courses.

The new criteria for linked certificate and diploma courses were circulated to all colleges and other interested parties and results were awaited. Submissions arrived faster than expected, but also disquiet was expressed in a number of quarters concerning the entry requirements and the length of the course leading to the diploma award. After protracted discussion, it was agreed that the criteria for the diploma in particular, were written, and formal links between certificate and diploma courses severed.

Throughout, the association has been anxious that courses leading to the awards should be sufficiently flexible to match local needs and for the course activities to match the professional experience of those teachers undertaking them. Consequently, guidelines, not syllabuses, were drawn up.

Some observers felt that the guidelines were too vague while, interestingly, others felt they were very restrictive. The submissions from colleges have certainly been varied - in length, style, organization, detail, and in their interpretation of our requirements. Generally, this variation has been welcomed as it does suggest that courses are being designed to match local needs. It also makes our scrutiny of the documentation more interesting, if occasionally problematic!

Every member of the board ends all submissions with three or four members being assigned particular responsibility for leading discussion at the subsequent board meeting. If the submission is promising, a visit to the institution in question by a team of board members is arranged.

The match or mismatch between written proposals and verbally expressed intention makes face-to-face discussion with course leaders and tutors fascinating, encouraging or disquieting, depending on the nature of the match or the direction of the mismatch. If confirmation of the need to visit institutions was required it has certainly been provided during the course of the last 15 months.

The involvement in discussions on the occasion of a visit, of teachers who have followed somewhat similar courses in the institution under consideration, has proved to be particularly valuable.

We have read and seen much that has impressed us and we have been greatly encouraged by the increase in the number of institutions providing courses in primary science. Additional interest, and additional work for the board, has been generated in the past eight months as a result of the Department of Education and Science initiative to add science to the list of in-service education courses qualifying for special grants.

In this respect, and in many others, we have been particularly fortunate to have a senior member of the Inspectorate as HMI consultant on the Validation Board. The match between DES criteria for approval of 4/84 courses and ASE criteria for diploma courses is not perfect, but in view of the protracted debate which took place before our diploma criteria were finalized, we are relieved that the two sets are not mutually exclusive.

Summarizing our achievements, as the new academic year starts 15 ASE-approved courses in primary science will be running, 11 at certificate level and four at diploma level. A further 12 proposals at primary level are in various stages of preparation or progress through the ASE validation process.



ress through the ASE validation process.

ASE guidelines for courses at secondary level have been approved and circulated, and we have received advance notice of secondary submissions pending. We continue with our scrutiny of proposals, informal meetings with course organizers and formal visits to institutions, much encouraged by the comments of our HMI consultant on the degree of professionalism that we have brought to our work.

Not all those colleges that have submitted proposals have been happy with the outcome of our deliberations but we are conscious that we claim to offer awards of high professional standard and of national status, and that we must be rigorous in the application of our criteria for evaluation. Many colleges have seen the development of their original proposals through the validation process as a cooperative venture with the ASE and this in itself has been a reward for the considerable amount of energy and degree of dedication that all members of the board have brought to the work in hand.

Cathy Wilson is deputy general secretary to the Association for Science Education.

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Peter Bishop

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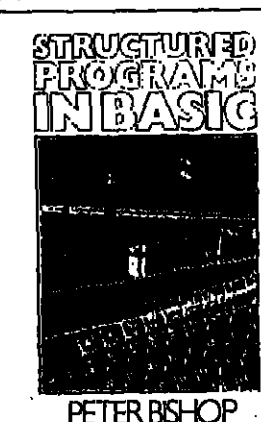
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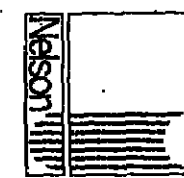
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"And you may answer..."

by Bob Kiddle

We wanted a useful extracurricular activity that was broadly within the aims of the science department, would appeal to large numbers of children, demand something from them, cost the department's finances nothing and not demand too much of teacher time and energy. At a department meeting last summer we decided on a science quiz.

As head of science in a medium-sized 12-16 comprehensive school I have long wanted to encourage more department-based, extra-curricular activity. A variety of small clubs have worked well with small groups of children but have tended to disappear as particularly busy times or when a member of staff moves on.

Several attempts at Chemistry Club have culminated in other problems; impossibly large numbers all wanting - nay, demanding - to make

bombs, alcohol, LSD and CS gas, for example. Science TV and Film Club prospered for a while but with little positive contribution from its members. With occasional hiccups (the greenhouse was completely destroyed by the gales this spring) Gardening Club serves a devoted band of enthusiasts though, of necessity, they must be limited in numbers.

So we were looking for a new idea. If you look through *Radio Times* and *TV Times* you'll find lots of quizzes so they must be entertaining. People taking part will, obviously, be actively involved and members of an audience could have done better than the contestants. Any number of people can come and watch a quiz even if not everyone can be in the hot seat at the same time.

Surely (we naively thought last summer)

mer) jotting down good questions will be no trouble at all, so the only real problem was prize money. That proved to be less of a stumbling block than we expected.

I wrote a carefully worded letter to 15 local concerns selected for their suspected profitability, proven generosity to the laboratory technicians' scientific work. Also blessed with our attentions were two science-based companies who employ another staff member's spouse.

The result was a total of £115 from four sponsors, £20 worth of torches from a local car dealer and promises to give the winners a day out of school at a local radio station one morning and an RAF base one afternoon. An eighth sponsor joined the list when I took some of the money to an electronics retailer to buy prizes.

We bought 30 small prizes and 200 pens with the quiz slogan printed on. There were to be four winners; each to receive a calculator, a plaque and the day out of school. Second and third prizes were science kits, torches, and various electronic gadgets donated by one of the sponsors.

Next, we announced the quiz to the school. Entries had to be teams of two - both from the same half of the school. When the closing date arrived we had 92 teams entered: 33 from the fourth and fifth year and 59 from forms two and three. Regrettably, only 40 girls had entered, most in all-girl teams.

Each entry had to be accompanied by a team name with some scientific connexion, and there was a prize for the best. We were offered such delights as "The Lab Loonies", "Newton's Apples", and the "Live Wires" to choose from.

We were now ready for the first of 23 first-round heats, each of them a match between four teams from the same year group. We decided on a consistent format for each heat. First, simple definitions of words all beginning with the same letter: then a thought-provoking round with four possible answers on the OHP to choose from.

Next came a guest scientist - a member of staff presenting a scientific interest and asking questions. We were magnificently supported by the school



staff; we learned about the science of dart-throwing and wool-spinning, some scientific history, art, geography and music and what happens to the body in PE lessons. Each guest was duly presented with a science quiz pen and my particular thanks. This was my favourite round of questions for the freshness of its material and the variety of its presentation.

Round 4 was a slide photograph of an animal, a minute's talk about it and some questions, and then came the simple apparatus or substances only by touch turned out to be an excellent test of teamwork as well as a bit of fun to watch. Round 6 was a short straight-forward practical often involving lots of water or something messy, and we finished with questions to go with a list of possible answers on an OHP transparency.

Setting questions took a lot of time. A good dictionary of science and technology was a great help - the secret, I discovered, is to start with an answer, the kids might know and then frame a question around it.

We set ourselves one or two strict limitations. For example, entertainment was to be an important priority. That means a lot of biting one's tongue - the temptation to be schoolteacherish and make sure every point is clearly understood is difficult to resist. Our reward, though, was a continuing and gratifying interest in coming to watch. In a school where the children are normally welcome to stay indoors at breaks and lunchtimes anyway, we had audiences at science quiz of 60 to 70 on occasions and well over 30 on average.

At three heats per fortnight, the first round kept us busy from November until March. Each winning team was promised a place in the next round and all the losers received a science quiz pen.

We changed the format for the next seven heats. The guest scientist continued, as did the thought-provoker, the practical and the "all answers begin with the same letter".

With those we put a round of questions about a piece of equipment the teams were given to examine, and questions on a loop film they were shown. Now the losers were winning small prizes as well as their science quiz pen.

By the Easter holiday we were down to two winning teams from the lower school and two from the upper school. The latter were both from the fourth year - a pair of boys and a pair of girls. The younger ones were all boys - one team from form two and one from form three. We tossed a coin to sort them into two mixed age teams of four.

The science quiz final was to be the department's big public relations jamboree of the year. We started from scratch on the questions and ended up with 13 rounds, all of a different style - some serious, some mostly for fun; howlers, a slapstick rendition of a scientific song and a round based on the TV quiz "Call My Bluff".

We included a competition and prizes for the audience, had parents on stage, blindfolded and struggling with salvaged equipment, and a little entertaining chemistry slide a loud

and flashy interlude.

The authority's science adviser, memorable guest scientist, and sponsors put on a computer display everyone as they arrived, and the press wrote up the occasion as splash headline. The audience, large, very responsive and happy, made a fine backdrop for the teams, obligingly, leaving each other for the lead and podium.

It is an unfortunate but inescapable characteristic of competitive events to generate losers as well as winners. We could, we would have preferred to avoid that altogether. Certainly did the best we could to make competition more fun than winning. Just to take part was a win in the cheap, but valued, school prize.

More than one winning team complained loudly that they would have lost and got their prize if told us often that they'd done quiz well enough - many were by their appearance "on stage" became regular attendees at subsequent heats.

On no occasion was a team graced. Victories were almost always by narrow margins and some contestants put up a spirited fight. In spite of a defeat on points, it is good to be reminded, as we several times, that, for many "losers", the problems in school of motivation more than of ability. Nonetheless, for a number of us have produced some negative feedback - disappointment, failure, a loss of self-esteem.

On the other hand, children relish the excitement of the contest, the chance to win the big prize. I know quite how we could have without winners, and, therefore, losers.

The plus side of the equation is up to more than 800 pupils' hours of extracurricular activity at the expense of about 30 teacher-hours of time and perhaps as much again in preparation. Next time the question will be already on file.

By as much as we have been able to measure the children's enjoyment and enthusiasm, we believe we have been successful in what we set out to do. We have a few bonuses too - contacts made with our sponsors, industry and the opportunity to be local press into the department.

At least some of the sponsors were delighted with the use we made of their money and are supporting us again next year. We've decided to save some quiz until it can be new and exciting again in a couple of years' time. So the moment, we're on the lookout for new ideas.

More than 750 questions and problems used in the quiz are available on computer printout. Send £3 to Mrs. C. H. H. School, Edenhope, Devon, South Yorkshire DN3 2Y. Cheques payable to Humberhill School Sports Dept. fund.

Book reviews

Biology: plus and minus points

Biology Now. By Keith Brocklehurst and Peter Fielden. Hodder and Stoughton £5.45. 0340 28519 5.

Biology: A Course for 16+. By Geoff Jones and Mary Jones. Cambridge University Press £4.50. 0 52 1 2653 2 1.

Introducing Biology. By A G Morgan and M D Robson. Macmillan £2.95. 03335136 3.

Biology for First Examinations. By Tony Adams and Chris Gayford. Holmes McDougal £3.75. 07157 1990 4.

Biology teachers must be perplexed when they have to select a text for use with their examination classes as there are over 30 books in print that cover the needs of most courses offered at 16-plus. Any book covering this field faces massive competition. *Biology Now* is for students "doing examinations at 16+" and *Biology: A Course for 16+* is "for wide ability range". So, these are competing with each other and all the rest. The first of these books has 100 pages more of actual text than the other, uses two colours throughout and therefore is greater value for money. The two books have 17 chapters in common, but in terms of overall content, Brocklehurst's has a greater emphasis on types and the Jones' on environmental work. Both books have the same page size and double column format. They have a glossary, index, practical work and clear line illustrations. Brocklehurst sometimes uses colour to considerable effect, as in the diagram of fish gill structure on page 177, but at other times, its use appears incidental (for instance, the soil shading on a rhizome on page 54). The one major difference between the two books is that Brocklehurst's has several appendices, one of which contains two computer simulations written in Commodore Basic. One is on "daily diet" and the other is "simulation of a breeding experiment", and these give the book a plus compared with the competition.

With books that are superficially similar, it is a useful exercise to compare their treatment of different topics. I selected three - the kidney, the ear and meiosis - that are notoriously difficult to explain and teach. Both texts have paragraphs and diagrams that illustrate kidney position and structure, the nephron and the processes of filtration and re-absorption. The Jones' diagrams are much clearer (and easier for pupils to copy) whereas those of Brocklehurst and Fielden are supplemented with photomicrographs of actual specimens and tabulations of data. Thus the authors try to relate the "idealized" with the real thing. They also use photomicrographs alongside the diagram of the cochlea section, but otherwise the treatment of the ear is very similar. Their explanation of the role of the semi-circular canals is made a little bit clearer as they use diagrams to show how the ampullae are stimulated. There are diagrams of "simplified" meiosis in both books, but only the Jones' use jargon like "anaphase" and "telophase". The need for this at 16+ is open to question. However, the scale reduction or magnification of any drawing or photomicrograph is rarely given either book.

More plus and minus points emerge when the glossary is checked. That of Jones and Jones is much longer than Brocklehurst and Fielden, but the detail of definition varies. For instance according to Jones, lignin is "the substance present in the walls of xylem vessels, wood contains lignin," whereas Brocklehurst regards it as "complex material found in large quantities in the cell walls of the xylem of plants. It does not stretch and is impermeable to water".

A plus for those authors. However the Jones team have more success with DNA: they state it is "Deoxyribonucleic acid; a substance found in chromosomes, which carries a code" used by the cell when making protein". Brocklehurst and Fielden give it as "a substance of which genes are made". A plus for the Joneses. Sometimes one word is the only differ-

ence, in the Jones' eyes, a pathogen is "an organism which causes disease", to Brocklehurst it is a "parasite which...". So one book has very good line diagrams and environmental work, the other, more costly one, numerous photomicrographs, extensive treatment of types and more pages. Whether a school buys one of these, one of the competitors or makes do with their existing books would depend not only on the availability of scarce funds but also on how closely the books satisfy the needs of the emerging 16-plus syllabuses of the different boards. The choice is not easy.

Adams and Gayford are not as ambitious as the other authors in trying to cope with readers of a wide ability range: their *Biology for First Examinations* is aimed at the needs of the average pupil, the present CSE band. Teachers may find this limitation a disadvantage as we change to 16+.

The double spread layout used here is common in books that are its competitors and the mix of text, two colour diagrams and photomicrographs is attractive. However, the illustrations are not numbered, so a pupil reading the book alone is not referred to anything that might help their understanding of explanations. There are some good clear photographs, for instance, crown grafting (page 139), rabbit thorax (page 118). The book has neither glossary nor practical work but there are samples of examination questions. This is a book that is the equal of others aiming at the same group.

Teachers may be spoilt by the choice of books they have for 16-plus, but I am bewildered by *Introducing Biology* edited by Robson and Morgan. The editors do not indicate the ability range for which they produced the book, other than saying it is an ideal foundation course for pupils who will

continue their study of the subject at examination level. To me this means it is for potential O level and CSE pupils that are in their third year of secondary education. But if you compare the treatment of topics in this book with that in, say, the Nuffield scheme for the third year (all aimed at the top 20 per cent of the ability range) you will be amazed at the massive difference in depth. *Introducing Biology* is in two parts, and its editors claim that the first covers the basic concepts and the second the broader issues like "variation", "pollution" and "diet" about which they believe all should be aware but which "the nature of many examination syllabuses means there is often little time for (their) study". This is a claim which is contradicted by the content of the other books mentioned. All three have whole chapters or significant parts of them devoted to these "broader issues". This book is made up of self contained double page units and all the topics are as late as possible ranging as "Support and Movement" or "Energy for Life" and have one spread of theory followed by one of practical. With such a restricted page layout, the depth of treatment could hardly be other than superficial. Consider "pollution". There are 31 single column lines on air pollution, with one diagram and photograph; 40 lines on water pollution with one

photograph and practical investigations on the effect of sulphur dioxide on seedlings and detergent on duckweed. Each one has a list of equipment, clear enumerated instructions and a table for results. And "results" and "conclusions" are given! (No comment). This will not extend work on pollution that might have been done in science courses in year one and two as comparison with schemes such as *Learning through Science*, *Insight to Science* and *Nuffield Combined Science* will reveal - and this is work on which this book is supposed to build! "Pollution" is not atypical; the content of superficiality applies to all the units and especially "variety of life" and "ecology". In the whole book there are only two investigations that were slightly different from anything I have come across in lower school work - one on potato disease (page 92) and the predator game (page 112). My bewilderment, then, relates to the use of the book in school. The editors say they "aim to bridge the gap between combined science courses and examination courses at 16+", but to me it appears to fulfill neither the aim of progression and extension of knowledge beyond elementary work nor that of providing a sufficiently sound and thorough foundation for examination work.

Jackie Hardie

The Mail on Sunday, July 15, 1984

The gas people - investing in tomorrow's world today

Gas is today's most popular fuel in British homes - and a powerful growing force in industry, too. But the system of underground pipelines needed to bring this clean, controllable fuel to homes, factories and offices all over Britain is largely taken for granted.

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So yesterday's investment turns out to be tomorrow's export opportunity - bringing more work for British industry, more jobs for British workers.

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because many overseas utilities have expressed interest in the device, which will, of course, detect other sorts of pipes - and cables, too. There is also export potential in other specialist equipment invented by the gas people.

So yesterday's investment turns out to be tomorrow's export opportunity - bringing more work for British industry, more jobs for British workers.

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All this work is designed to make the nation's gas system even safer as well as more efficient for the gas people rapidly increasing number of customers - more than 250,000 extra last year and almost 3 million more over the past decade or so.

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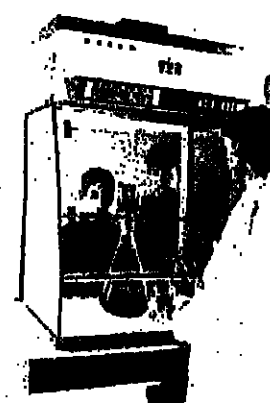
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Tried and tested

Tom Bryce and Isobel Robertson describe a Scottish based scheme for assessing practical skills in Standard Grade science

From this autumn, in Scottish Secondary Schools, all 14-year-olds are obliged to study some form of science until the end of their compulsory education. In addition to biology, chemistry and physics, "science" will be offered with awards made on the new Standard Grade Certificate. (The first certificates will be awarded in 1986.)

Standard grade science courses have been planned to cater both for the low achievers who would have been unable to benefit from an Ordinary Grade Certificate course and for those for whom a more general study is appropriate in terms of curricular balance. At the end of the course pupils will be presented at one or two levels (Foundation or General) and a Grade will be awarded on an overlapping scale (Standard Grade 2-7).

One of the most interesting innovations of the standard grade assessment procedures is the introduction of Practical Skills as an assessed element of the course to be accorded equal status with the other three assessed areas: Knowledge and understanding, Handling information, and Problem-solving.

While these will be assessed internally by a variety of methods, and externally by an examination set by the Scottish Examination Board, practical skills will be assessed entirely by teachers, though with moderation of their procedures by the board.

Both a profile of the four assessed elements and an overall grade for standard science will appear on the new certificate. The assessment of Practical Skills must be based on the grade-related criteria and specific skill objectives provided by the SEB, but the schools have freedom to devise their own systems, subject to acceptance and moderation by the board.

One system which has been widely tried with schools involved in the SED's Extended Feasibility Studies in Science (1980-1983) and which has gained acceptance and considerable popularity in many schools, is the one developed by our research group based in Jordanhill College, Glasgow.

The research project was set up in 1980 as part of the EPS to investigate techniques for the assessment of prac-

tical skills (TAPS) in Foundation science and now (1983-86) our work is concerned with the General levels.

Demand from Scottish teachers for the materials which were developed as part of the research has led to the publication by Heinemann Educational Books (1983) of a school assessment pack. This practical item bank is accompanied by a teacher's guide (also available separately) which describes the conceptual basis, the assessment framework, the test items and the uses of the system.

Details of the extensive developmental testing, validation and reliability studies of these practical test items, trying out the profile-reporting system, the extensive in-service work undertaken with teachers and the results of the data analysis are contained in the report of the project (1984) which is available from Jordanhill College.

Practical science has traditionally been under-assessed, although teachers place great value by the practical sciences taught in laboratories and spend a considerable amount of time on it.

It is evident from the research literature that practical science has proved to be most difficult to assess in some valid and manageable form. Most attempts to assess it by means of "one-off" practical examinations at the end of courses or with continuous or quasi-continuous systems purporting to grade experiments carried out in class time (but based on written reports or on the impressions left on teachers by their pupils) have consistently failed to yield manageable and demonstrably valid systems acceptable both to teachers and to examination boards.

With the publication of the Munn and Dunning reports and their dramatic proposals for change in the curriculum and assessment of pupils of 14 years-plus in Scottish secondary schools, and with a shift of emphasis among educationalists away from the traditional norm-referenced procedures towards criterion-referenced techniques, we set out to develop a criterion-referenced system for use by the teacher in the laboratory.

The system developed provides a diagnostic formative description of the skills of individual pupils highlighting successes and identifying weaknesses in ways which lead to remediation.

A considerable part of our efforts has been devoted to the production of a manageable system of record sheets and to detailed recommendations concerned with aggregation whereby the emphasis is placed upon taking decisions about the achievement or otherwise of particular objectives and, over a period of time, upon the choice of items appropriate to this purpose. The summative profile is based on the six skill areas: "observational skills", "recording skills", "measurement skills", "manipulative skills", "procedural skills", and "following instructions".

The Foundation science course materials (50 percent core and 50 percent option topics) were written, developed and modified by teachers working in designated first-line pilot schools and scrutiny of these materials permitted an identification of the practical skills of the course.

Our conceptual scheme for the six skill areas serves both as a description of practical science, useful to teachers in the ways in which they think about the subject and interact with their pupils, and as a category scheme for the more detailed objectives of the course. Two additional skill categories feature for the General levels of standard grade science. These are concerned with the skills of inference involved in experiments and interpretation of results and with the selection of procedures and techniques.

Each practical test item is designed to assess a particular objective and has been devised to give maximum information on the cause of failure. Elements of skill areas other than that tested are reduced in individual items. For example, an item in the recording skill area has elements of observation, manipulation, knowledge of apparatus and, to a minimal extent, items are typically short, most can be carried out

within three minutes.

As a result of extensive development tests the instructions have been made as clear and concise as possible and suited to the target population. Everyday materials as well as some laboratory apparatus and colour presentations are used wherever possible to stimulate interest.

It was clear from the outset that practical test items had to be easily checked by teachers, and this has been the development of checks of the product rather than the process of executing a skill.

Ingenuity was required to ensure that after the completion of a specific practical task a written response could be made by the pupil which would provide the evidence that the task had been correctly performed. Some 230 of the more than 300 practical test items in our bank are of this paper and pencil product-check type. In some cases the product-check consists of a "tick" of the task, for example, checking the level of powder in a container which is marked with tolerance bands, easily recognized by the teacher, though not by the pupil.

There are certain tasks within the science laboratory where, for safety or other reasons, the teacher must see individual pupils perform the task. For example, lighting the Bunsen burner and using it to heat test tubes, benders of wire. For the few skills in this category, 11 simple check lists have been devised. The Teacher's Guide describes a variety of ways in which all of the individual test items might be used to conduct formative assessment throughout the course of teaching in the laboratory.

The large number of items in the bank offers teachers a choice of different materials, following remediation of failure. We know from our work that pupils respond better to than to retesting with the same items.

It is our hope that the item bank will stimulate teachers to develop their own materials especially suited to their own particular circumstances. Today most teachers have used the materials in an end-of-topic, end-of-term "stations circuit" but it is our intention that, as teachers become familiar and experienced in conducting practical assessment with these materials, that they are keen to adopt a number of alternative means of integrating the assessment with their teaching. For example, as pre-tests before a topic, as individualized checks on skills needed by particular pupils prior to individual practical investigations, as mini-circuits of a few items in order to traditionally organized practical work in the laboratory, and so on. Part of our research is concerned with the ways in which these approaches to formative assessment can be best implemented.

Our research has shown (and is in accord with that published by the Assessment of Performance Unit) that "the basic skills" are not evident in, or indeed most of the pupils following the Foundation science course, despite two years of science in secondary education prior to it. It is hoped that the focus upon practical assessment for certification purposes will go some way towards improving this situation.

It was encouraging, however, to find in the course of our test-retest reliability studies that teachers reported skills after an identification of learning difficulties thrown up by this approach to practical assessment.

This nicely accords with educational thinking that assessment should be deliberately devised to have maximum influence upon teaching. Other aspects of our research have been concerned with the validity of the system, in particular the extent to which the conceptual scheme is supported by the patterns of achievement in different practical skills.

The results, as given in our report of the project, are indeed encouraging. Dr Tom Bryce and Mrs Isobel Robertson are, respectively, conductor and research officer of the TAPS Research Project based in Jordanhill College, Glasgow.

The School Natural Science Society

Introduced by John Williams

Eighty-one years ago, in the spring of 1903, a group of teachers and other educators met together under the guidance of the Rev Claude Hinscliff, a curate of St George's-in-the-East, Stepney. They were there to decide how best to advance the then new subject of nature study, which had recently been introduced in the borough's schools.

From this first meeting there emerged the beginnings of the School Natural Science Society. It was known in those days as the Nature Study Union and was formed to help teachers and children to discover, by direct observation, the wonder and beauty of the natural world.

That Stepney should have been the venue for the meeting was due in the main to Miss Kate Hall of the borough museum. This lady was one of those far-sighted innovators who emerge from time to time to promote new and "revolutionary" ideas in education, which so often become the accepted norm. Miss Hall became the society's first treasurer and Mr Hinscliff its first secretary.

The original aims of the society still remain. However, in 1963 it was decided to change the name and policy in order to reflect the growing interest in science and technology, particularly in primary schools. Nature study had become limited to observational biology, and while not giving up the previous interest in living things, by incorporating natural science in this new title, it was now possible to broaden the interests of the society.

These now encompass not only the physical sciences, but also astronomy, geology and palaeontology. It was at this time that links were forged with the Association for Science Education. With their interests in the specialist sciences, it seemed sensible not to duplicate our efforts. This coincided with an increased interest by our members in the teaching of science in primary schools, as well as in the earlier years of secondary education. The society sees primary science, its teaching and content, as a subject in its own right, and not as a watered-down secondary approach. Indeed, our concern has never been solely for the subject matter, but also for the presentation and methods of teaching science.

The society has always represented all levels and interests in science education. A glance through old journals or minutes of past meetings, shows that we have always encouraged new ideas and methods in education. Well before ecology and technology became generally accepted into the curriculum, the society had included them in its activities, and had brought them within the reach and understanding of young children.

Nowadays few, if any, teachers would question the necessity of including some science in the early stages of a child's education. Nevertheless, there is an ever-increasing need to teach the subject in a way that involves pupils in practical activities, both in science and technology. The society has always advocated this approach, and it is through our journal - *Teaching Science* - that these ideas are disseminated.

This is the best known publication of our organization, but in addition we have a range of more than 50 pamphlets, books, and off-prints. These range in size and content from a 20p leaflet on sparrows, to more expensive publications about urban field studies, lichens or geology. They are bought by teachers and institutions throughout the world.

The society organizes regular meetings for teachers, weekend courses, workshops, seminars and exhibitions. At this year's general meeting in Hounslow, the theme of primary science was used to illustrate our latest publication. Funded by the Department of Industry, this is a discussion document listing science skills and attitudes worth fostering in the junior school. This is a reflection of our interest in the development of the

curriculum, and the document has recently been distributed to many local education authorities.

The society has taken a keen interest in the recent developments in science education and has followed closely the processes of the Assessment of Performance Unit. We, of course, welcome any research which will help teachers to develop new skills and help them to be aware of the amount and depth of science that can be taught to young children.

We think that our society can assist them in this way, just as it can and does express many of the reservations that teachers feel about the plethora of comment concerning the future of the school curriculum. For instance, there is much talk of subject specialization in the primary school. The realization

that primary teachers are specialists in their own right is long overdue and is one of the concepts that we try to establish.

Naturally, the society wishes to see science taught well in all schools. Indeed, within our committee we have a wealth of experience, both in science and in teaching. This enables us to understand the difficulties that teachers have when confronted, perhaps for the first time, with the teaching of this complex and ever-expanding subject. The School Natural Science Society exists for those teachers, and for all others who have an interest in the teaching of science to children of all ages and abilities.

John Williams is Hon. General Secretary, The School Natural Science Society

The last great name

Cockcroft and the Atom. By Guy Hartcup and T.E. Allibone. Adam Hilger £6.95.

The year 1932 was a heady one for science, and nowhere was that more manifest than in the laboratories of Cambridge. It was there that the fledgling science of nuclear physics achieved an astonishing maturity in a mere 12 months. Chadwick discovered the neutron; Blackett discovered the positive electron, or positron; and Cockcroft and Walton carried out the first artificial disintegration of the atom.

It is said this last achievement so moved Cockcroft - who was "normally about as given to emotional display as the Duke of Wellington", according to C.P. Snow - that he skipped down King's Parade, babbling to passers-by: "We've split the atom. We've split the atom." Sadly, according to Cockcroft's biographers, Hartcup and Allibone,

the story is more fancy than fact - which has not stopped it becoming enshrined as one of the most enduring, and endearing, myths about a great scientist.

A man of humble northern origins, Cockcroft later came to personify the breed of "new men" beloved of C.P. Snow. He was a distinguished physicist (Cockcroft won the 1951 Nobel Prize for Physics) who also successfully performed as a senior administrator in the corridors of power. He contributed greatly to our understanding of the atom; played of radar during the Second World War; and later helped set up, and run, the Harwell atomic research centre, and also Churchill College, Cambridge.

It was an accomplished, vigorous career, though it appears Cockcroft was left with little time for a fulfilling personal life. Certainly Hartcup and Allibone shed little light on the personality or motivation of the scientist. All that emerges is a picture of a kindly, liberal personality devoted to his family.

Cockcroft and the Atom, then, is biography stripped of emotion but which is strong on scientific detail. If nothing else, it fills an important gap by telling the story of the last great name in nuclear physics not previously accorded a definitive biography.

Robin McKie

Teach Electricity

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Understanding Electricity is the educational service of the electricity supply industries in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

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Heinemann Educational Books
 Freepost EM17, 22 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3BP

SECONDARY DEPUTY HEADSHIPS

(continued)

BARKING AND DAGENHAM

LONDON BOROUGH OF BARKING AND DAGENHAM
WISBROUGH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
 Wood Lane, Dagenham, Essex (Roll 519)
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher for this 11-18 mixed comprehensive school as a member of the senior management team. A review of the school's responsibilities is being carried out and the successful candidate will influence the future development of the school. The First Deputy will also be responsible for the timetable. Salary: Deputy Head £21,454 - £23,076 per annum plus £687 per annum Inner London Allowance. Reimbursement of removal expenses in approved cases. Application forms available from the Headteacher (s.a.e.) or the Education Officer, 5th October 1984. (049911) 130012

BEDFORDSHIRE

NORTHAMPTON AREA
PILGRIM UPPER SCHOOL
 Brinkhill Drive, Bedford (Roll 1050) (Sixth Form 955)
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Head (Group 12). The successful candidate, who will become a member of the senior management team, will be responsible for the school's day-to-day running and will have considerable administrative and financial responsibilities. The specific duties will depend upon the interests and capabilities of the person appointed. The school, situated in a pleasant residential area of North Bedford, is a pilot school for the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative which started in 1983. Those interested in this key post are invited to send a CV and application to the Headmaster at the school. Closing date for receipt of applications is 5th October 1984. (05519) 130012

BEXLEY

LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY
CLAYTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL
 Clayton Road, Bexley (Roll 1000) (Sixth Form 955)
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Head (Group 12). The successful candidate, who will become a member of the senior management team, will be responsible for the school's day-to-day running and will have considerable administrative and financial responsibilities. The specific duties will depend upon the interests and capabilities of the person appointed. The school, situated in a pleasant residential area of North Bedford, is a pilot school for the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative which started in 1983. Those interested in this key post are invited to send a CV and application to the Headmaster at the school. Closing date for receipt of applications is 5th October 1984. (05519) 130012

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

WIMBORNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 Abbey Road, Cambridge CB4 1JA
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Head (Group 12). The successful candidate, who will become a member of the senior management team, will be responsible for the school's day-to-day running and will have considerable administrative and financial responsibilities. The specific duties will depend upon the interests and capabilities of the person appointed. The school, situated in a pleasant residential area of North Bedford, is a pilot school for the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative which started in 1983. Those interested in this key post are invited to send a CV and application to the Headmaster at the school. Closing date for receipt of applications is 5th October 1984. (05519) 130012

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

BRITTON WOODS COMMUNITY SCHOOL
 Britton Woods, Peterborough PE3 8DP
 Tel: 01509 26673
 Principal: Mr. J.L. Griffiths, B.A., M.Ed.
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher for this 11-18 mixed comprehensive school as a member of the senior management team. A review of the school's responsibilities is being carried out and the successful candidate will influence the future development of the school. The First Deputy will also be responsible for the timetable. Salary: Deputy Head £21,454 - £23,076 per annum plus £687 per annum Inner London Allowance. Reimbursement of removal expenses in approved cases. Application forms available from the Headteacher (s.a.e.) or the Education Officer, 5th October 1984. (049911) 130012

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HARINGEY

PROGRESS WITH HUMANITY
FORTISMEER SCHOOL
 Muswell Hill, London N10
 Head: A.M. Nixon, M.A.
 A large, mixed comprehensive school which opened in September 1983. Modern buildings with pupils of all ages in the sixth form.
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher to join the Management Team of the school. The successful candidate should have had wide experience in Secondary Education and will be expected to participate fully in the running of the school. Specific responsibilities will be allocated in the light of previous experience but will include timetabling and the overall development of the school. The Catholic ethos and tradition of the school is very much a part of its life. All its members are expected to contribute significantly to this sphere.
 Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following post:
ABLEY WOOD SCHOOL
 Abley Wood Road, Abley, Nottingham NUR 3LD
 Headmaster: G.J. Jamieson, M.Ed., Dip. Special Ed.
 Mixed: 75 (All Age)
 For January, or earlier if possible, a Deputy Head Teacher (Group 12) for children with physical handicaps and special needs. Experience in special education and an additional qualification are essential. Candidates should have a minimum of 10 years' experience in curriculum development and the application of micro-computer technology to the needs of disabled children.
 Application forms and further details available (s.a.e.) from the Headmaster at the school. (130012)

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HOUNSLOW

GUNNERSBURY CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR BOYS (GROUP 12)
 The Ridge, Boston Manor Road, Brentford, Middx. TW8 9LB
 Headteacher: M.J. Bovill, B.A.
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher to join the Management Team of the school. The successful candidate should have had wide experience in Secondary Education and will be expected to participate fully in the running of the school. Specific responsibilities will be allocated in the light of previous experience but will include timetabling and the overall development of the school. The Catholic ethos and tradition of the school is very much a part of its life. All its members are expected to contribute significantly to this sphere.
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NORTH YORKSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL
HUNTINGTON SCHOOL
 Huntington Road, York YO3 9PX
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher to join the Management Team of the school. The successful candidate should have had wide experience in Secondary Education and will be expected to participate fully in the running of the school. Specific responsibilities will be allocated in the light of previous experience but will include timetabling and the overall development of the school. The Catholic ethos and tradition of the school is very much a part of its life. All its members are expected to contribute significantly to this sphere.
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Remedial Posts

BROMLEY
LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY
HEAD OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
 Head of Special Education, Bromley, Kent
 Required for January 1985: A Deputy Headteacher to join the Management Team of the school. The successful candidate should have had wide experience in Secondary Education and will be expected to participate fully in the running of the school. Specific responsibilities will be allocated in the light of previous experience but will include timetabling and the overall development of the school. The Catholic ethos and tradition of the school is very much a part of its life. All its members are expected to contribute significantly to this sphere.
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Application forms for the following appointments, except where otherwise stated, are obtainable from and returnable to the Head Teachers by the dates stated. A stamped addressed envelope (A4 size) should be enclosed with all requests for application forms.

HEADTEACHERS PRIMARY

Instow Primary School
 Instow, Bideford EX39 4LU. Roll 77
 Head Teacher - Group 2 (£9,504-£10,538)
 Required April 1985. Application forms and further details (s.a.e. required) from Area Education Officer, Civic Centre, North Walk, Barnstaple EX31 1EG. Closing date 5 October 1984.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHERS SECONDARY

Tavistock School and Community College
 Crowndale Road, Tavistock. Roll 1,820
 Second Master/Mistress - Group 13
 Required January 1985. Applications are invited from graduates with appropriate experience. The successful candidate will be expected to make a major contribution to the work of the senior staff of the school and community college with particular reference to girls' safety, welfare and discipline. Closing date 4 October 1984.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHERS SPECIAL

Courtlands School
 Widley Lane, Crownhill, Plymouth PL6 5JS. Roll 160
 Deputy Head - Group 8(s) - (Readvertisement)
 Required January 1985. The school caters for children age range 5-12½ years, with special educational needs which come within the moderate range. It is expected that the person appointed will be forward looking and able to accept responsibility for developing a major area of the curriculum and to play a leading role in all areas of the life of the school. Experience of special education is essential and a further qualification in that area is desirable. Previous application will be reconsidered. Closing date 5 October 1984.

SCALE POSTS SECONDARY

Queen Elizabeth's School and Community College (11-18 years comprehensive)
 Western Road, Crediton EX17 3LU.
 Roll 1,690
 Scale 4 - Head of Modern Languages
 Required January 1985 for this key post in a school pressing ahead with curriculum change. French and German are offered to A Level. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Ivybridge Community College
 Harford Road, Ivybridge PL21 0JA.
 Roll 1,300
 Scale 4 - Head of Mathematics
 Required January 1985. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Axminster County Secondary School
 Chard Street, Axminster EX13 5EA.
 Roll 720
 Scale 3 - Head of Remedial Studies and Unit for Children with Moderate Learning Difficulties
 Required January 1985 as a teacher with relevant qualifications and experience for this post. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Estover School
 Miller Way, Estover, Plymouth PL6 8UN.
 Roll 870
 This purpose built school situated on the northern edge of the city opened in September 1981 with a first form intake and will grow annually to 16 to 11-18 all ability comprehensive school by 1987.

Scale 3 - Head of Modern Languages
 Required January 1985 for this key post in a school pressing ahead with curriculum change. French and German are offered to A Level. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Teignmouth High School and Community College
 Exeter Road, Teignmouth TQ14 9HZ.
 Roll 1,156
 Scale 3 - Head of Religious Education
 Required for January 1985 to be in charge of Religious Education for 11-18 year olds (including CSE, O and A Level work) and of the School's Personal, Social and Moral Education programme. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Ashburton Comprehensive School
 Ballard Lane, Ashburton TQ13 7EV.
 Roll 891
 Scale 3 - Head of Craft, Design and Technology
 Required for January 1985. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Notre Dame Comprehensive School for Girls
 Looeleigh Lane, Derriford, Plymouth PL6 5HN. Roll 740
 Scale 3 - Special Needs
 Required January 1985 as a teacher in charge of special needs to develop the resources and skills required to meet the requirements of Warnock for pupils needing special compensatory education.

Scale 1 - Homecraft
 Required January 1985 able to teach the usual range of subjects to O Level and possibly A Level. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Brixham Community College
 Higher Ranscombe Road, Brixham TQ5 9HF. Roll 678
 Scale 1 - English
 Required January 1985 to join an enthusiastic department and to teach across the age and ability range in this 11-16 school. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Chudleigh Knighton C of E Primary School
 Chudleigh Knighton, Newton Abbot TQ13 0EU. Roll 56
 Scale 1 - Infants
 Required September 1984 a teacher to take a class of 5-7 year olds. The ability to teach Science and/or Art and Craft throughout the school an advantage. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Plymouth Comprehensive School
 Church Road, Plymouth, Plymouth PL9 9AZ. Roll 1,450
 Scale 1 - Biology and General Science
 Required as soon as possible. This is a temporary appointment for 1 year only. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Exmouth Brixington Junior School
 Brixington Lane, Exmouth EX8 4JQ.
 Roll 238
 Scale 1
 Required January 1985 a teacher prepared to work co-operatively with first year juniors. In this open plan school. A willingness to assume responsibility for games, including school teams, an advantage. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Stokenham Primary School
 Stokenham, Kingsbridge TQ7 2SJ.
 Roll 166
 Scale 1
 Required January 1985 teacher for middle juniors. Closing date 5 October 1984.

Torquay Girls Grammar School
 Shipway Lane, Torquay TQ2 6DY.
 Roll 685
 Scale 1 - Home Economics - (Temporary)
 Required for November 1984 to teach Home Economics throughout the school (including A Level). Letters of application to the Headmistress. Closing date 1 October 1984.

Braunton School and Community College
 Barton Lane, Braunton EX33 2BP.
 Roll 802
 Scale 3 - Modern Languages
 Required January 1985 as a teacher in charge of French and German with wide experience and a broad view in modern language teaching able to give a strong lead in this important faculty.

Scale 1 - Modern Languages
 Required January 1985 as a teacher in charge of French and German with wide experience and a broad view in modern language teaching able to give a strong lead in this important faculty.

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Scale 1 - Modern Languages
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South Molton School and Community College
 South Molton, North Devon EX36 4LA.
 Roll 600
 Scale 1 - Mathematics and Computer Studies
 Required for January 1985, an enthusiastic teacher of Mathematics in this 11-16 mixed comprehensive school to teach across the age and ability range. Experience or knowledge of computers is desirable. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Goosewell Infants School
 Goosewell Road, Plymstock, Plymouth PL9 9HA. Roll 222
 Scale 1 - Infants
 Required January 1985 to join a hard working co-operative staff with an ability to teach a full infant range 5-7 years including Reception Class as required. Closing date 4 October 1984.

Bridestowe CP School
 Bridestowe, Okehampton

BRADFORD
CITY OF BRADFORD
ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE
RURAL SWAY SCHOOL
This property is for sale
1985 for this 15 plot farm
house school of 1340 pupils
to teach Home Economics in
Years 3, 4 and 5. 6-11.
The department consists of
part time secretary assistant
part time library assistant
part time work as a team in
the department are in charge
and curriculum and in
teaching the subjects.
The rooms are well equip-
ped and 16 plus Home Econ-
omics areas are well estab-
lished. City and Gold

Full details and application form, on receipt of SAE, available from the Headquarters, Rhode-away Union School, Oakes Lane, Allentown, Pa. 18103, to whom completed forms should be mailed by 5 October 1985.

Reference: ET 852842TES

Bradford is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from candidates of any race, sex, age, or ability, unless otherwise stated. 054842 153022

BIENT

The school, situated in a pleasant residential area has a comprehensive intake of 1130 pupils (216 in the sixth form).

TEACHERS: 216 from CONQUEROR HOME ECONOMICS TEACHER (scale 1), to teach Home Economics, Child Development, and Textiles throughout the school. Some of the work in the home economics work would be an advantage but first appointment London Allowance of £887 per annum is payable.

BRENT: Broad opportunities employer.

TEACHING: Fundamentally committed to Multi-Cultural Education.

TEACHING FORMS (See) obtainable from the Head.

BROMLEY
LONDON BOROUGH OF
BROMLEY
COOPERS SCHOOL
Telegraph Road, Chislehurst,
Kent S31T 5PF
HEADTEACHER
The Headmaster is seeking
a qualified teacher of Home
Economics to contribute to
the work of the Cookery and
other aspects of the Curriculum
in the Home and Social
Studies Department. The
role is a co-educational,
for selective school de-
velopment (first all ability
from September 1981).
Application form available
from the Headmaster's secret-
ariat on 01-467 3363.

DEVON
Please see displayed advertisement on Page 65, (58223; 133022)

ESSEX
BRAYS GROVE SCHOOL
Tracy's Road, Harlow
Hail 500
Tel: 39161
TEACHER OF HOME
ECONOMICS, Scale 1
Required immediately or for
January 1985. Full or part
time. For details see

**ST. MARK'S R.C.
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**
Prison Road, Harlow CM18
7AA.
Tel: 803;
Tel: Harlow 21267
ASSISTANT TEACHER. Scale
Required 1st January 1985.
Teacher of Home Economics.
Closing date 28th September
1984.
Applications to the Head-
teacher at the school (look-
ing a.s.a.p. please). (50088)
153022

Shawhurst Lane,
Hollywood, Birmingham
B17 3JN

Required as soon as possible an enthusiastic teacher of Home Economics. Must be willing to experience to teach throughout the ability to work in a team. The Home Economics rooms are well equipped. Ability to teach new subjects is an advantage. A temporary or permanent appointment may be made.

Initial letter of application with curriculum vitae and a stamped addressed envelope should be sent to the School from whom further details and an application form may be obtained.

Salary equivalent to Burnham applicant. Participation in Pension Scheme. Membership of medical insurance, if necessary. Modulation is available.

Applications in writing to the following full curriculum vitae and addresses of two referees

Required as soon as possible an enthusiastic teacher of Home Economics Scale 1 or 2 according to experience to teach throughout the ability range up to 'A' level. The Home Economics rooms are well equipped. Ability to teach needlework would be an advantage. Temporary or permanent appointment may be made.

Initial letter of application with curriculum vitae and 3 stamped self-addressed envelopes to the Head of the School from whom the salary scale and an application form may be obtained. (0556) 13322

addresses of two referees.

SPECIAL EDUCATION
(continued)NEWCASTLE
UPON TYNEEDUCATION COMMITTEE
ST. AIDAN'S SPECIAL
SCHOOL

Appointment to a Scale 1 (S) or 11 (S) post as soon as possible. A suitably qualified Teacher to be responsible for the teaching and organisation of Physical and Outdoor Education to children with special educational needs. The ability to teach general subjects is also necessary. A Scale 11 (S) post may be available to a suitably experienced candidate. If a Scale 11 appointment is not made, the Scale 1 post will be in the first instance until the 31st August 1985.

Applications forms are obtainable from and returnable to the Head Teacher, St. Aidan's, 11th Avenue, Parkside, West Denton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 1DP by Friday 5th October, 1984. 160022

NEWHAM

LONDON BOROUGH OF
NEWHAM SCHOOL
TOLLETT ROAD, LONDON E6

Head Teacher: Miss P.A. Collier
Number on roll: 65
TEMPORARY CLASS
TEACHER FOR SENIOR
CLASS (14-18 years)

Required as soon as possible (two terms to cover maternity leave). Experience of teaching pupils with severe learning difficulties essential. London Allowance: 1987 plus Special Schools Allowance. Application forms (s.e.s. 1) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 2nd October 1984.

Education Office, 379/283 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (05268) 160023

SUFFOLK

SOUTH COUNCIL
BELLESTAD SCHOOL
SPRITES LANE, IPSWICH

Scale 1 teacher with Special Schools Allowance required for January 1985. This secondary school for 130 pupils with severe learning difficulties. The vacancy exists within the lower school which caters for the more able pupils from the local area. Candidates with primary or secondary experience in teaching children with severe learning difficulties are considered but wide teaching experience in basic literacy/numeracy and additional subject experience in art, music, or computers an advantage. Application forms and further details obtainable from the Head Teacher (see please) to be returned to the school. (0565) 160022

TEACHERS OF THE BLIND

VSO is occasionally asked to recruit qualified teachers of the blind to work in schools in developing countries. For terms and conditions of service, please apply to the Overseas Section. (05951) 160023

WEST SUSSEX

CONNAUGHT JUNIOR
SCHOOL
Beehive Impaired Unit
York Road, Littlehampton

Applications are invited from qualified teachers of the deaf for a temporary appointment for 3 terms from January 1985. Forms and details from Headteacher on receipt of S.F.E. Re-advertisements: Previous applications will be considered and need not re-apply. (05268) 160022

WILTSHIRE

ALLINGTON SPECIAL
Allington Way,
Chippenham SN14 0JS

Required for January 1985. Applications are invited from qualified teachers of the deaf to children with learning and behavioural difficulties (Age range 5-17 years).

The successful candidate will be required to undertake 15 hours per week extraneous duties. Application form and further details from and returnable to the Head Teacher (see please). Closing date: 13th October, 1984. (05268) 160023

APPOINTMENTS IN SCOTLAND

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
BEARSDEN, GLASGOW G61 4QA

The Governors invite applications from appropriately qualified and experienced teachers for the following posts:-

- (a) LECTURER IN ENGLISH
(b) LECTURER IN EDUCATIONAL SCIENCE (GUIDANCE)
(c) LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS

For post (a) applicants should have a good Honours Degree, be fully aware of current curricular concerns and developments in the teaching of English.

For post (b) applicants should have held a post of responsibility in guidance in a secondary school and be able to contribute to guidance programmes in pre-service courses and to the wide range of in-service guidance provision currently offered by the College.

For post (c) applicants should have a good Degree or equivalent in Mathematics. Current primary school experience in Mathematics, preferably in the upper primary school. An interest in children with learning difficulties/children in need of enrichment in mathematics would be desirable.

The appointments will take effect from dates to be negotiated. The salary scale attached to these posts is £8,888-£13,716 per annum.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from the Principal (Tel: 041-943-1424) to whom completed forms should be returned by 3rd October, 1984. (0111)

CENTRAL
REGIONAL COUNCIL
EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT

HEAD TEACHER
Falkirk Day Unit, Falkirk

This post carries an additional paid-investment payment of £376.00 per annum. Responsibility payment £1,495.

Application forms and job descriptions can be obtained from the Director of Education, Room 203, Central Regional Council, Viewforth, Stirling. If returned not later than Monday, 29th September 1984, (05663) 170000

GRAMPIAN
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MASTRIK YOUNG
UNEMPLOYED PROJECT
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

In conjunction with a local management group, the council is sponsoring an urban aid funded project with the aim of assisting young people to tackle issues of concern to them and to pursue their interests. Mastrik is a large housing estate in Aberdeen and the project is temporary based in Mastrik Community Centre. Investigation of more suitable accommodation is underway.

Applicants should have proven ability in working with young people, background in youth work or adult education an advantage. (Experience is more important than particular qualifications).

Salary Scale £9,640 - £10,554 (inc. of irregular hours and week-end working). Further information can be obtained from Mr Ian Crick, Tel: Aberdeen 682202, Ext. 0544.

Application forms and further details from Director of Manpower Services Woodhill House, Aberdeen AB9 8LU. Closing date 5th October. Ref: 052847. (05957) 170000

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Education

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Applications are invited from registered teachers for the undernoted post.

PRIMARY

Reference B St Margaret's RC Primary School

Reference A Musselburgh Grammar School

Reference D Arndale Academy - Computer Education

Reference D Arndale Academy - Computer Education

Reference A Knox Academy - Physics

Reference D St Mary's Academy - French/German or Italian

Reference D James Young High School - Mathematics

Reference D St Mary's Academy - Mathematics

Reference D Blackburn Academy - Mathematics

Reference D Our Lady's High School - Mathematics (Part time)

Salary will be in accordance with the current Scottish Teachers' Salary Scales. Housing may be available for the posts in West Lothian Division. Further information can be obtained from the Divisional Education Officer.

Candidates should specify for which posts they wish to apply.

For posts marked Reference A

For post marked Reference D

For posts marked Reference D

Closing date for applications is 5 October 1984.



Western Isles Islands Council

TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY

Re-advertisement. Required for Daliburgh School, South Uist, a 4 year secondary with a role of 176. The post offers the opportunity to teach classes up to 'O' grade and the ability to teach maths or physics would be an advantage.

Application forms available from The Personnel and Management Services Office, Council Offices, Sandwick Road, Stromoy, Tel: 085 13773 Ext. 301. Closing Date 5th October 1984. (0812)

EDUCATION/CAREERS SERVICE

ASSISTANT
CAREERS OFFICER

GRADE: AP1-2 £5,973 to £7,191 (pay award pending) plus consolidated allowances of £1,223 and an Essential Car User allowance.

Applications are invited from Careers Officers who hold or are about to complete the Diploma in Careers guidance for the above basic grade post. The appointee, who will act as Assistant to the present Careers Officer, will undertake the full range of Careers Officer's duties. This post is both interesting and challenging and will require organisational skills as well as the ability to establish easy working relationships in a small island community undergoing change due to North Sea Oil development. Applicants should normally be car owners and hold a current driving licence. For an informal discussion concerning the post, contact the Careers Officer, Tel: Lerwick 3635 Ext. 288.

The Closing Date for Receipt of Applications is Friday 5th October, 1984.

For application forms and further details please contact the Personnel Department, Shetland Islands Council, County Buildings, Lerwick, Shetland Islands ZE1 0HD. Telephone Lerwick (0959) 3635, Ext. 374/5. An answering service is available on Lerwick (0959) 2604 outside office hours.

All applications will be considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, regardless of sex, race, marital status or disability.

SHETLAND ISLANDS
COUNCIL

Independent Schools

Headships

ASCO

ASCO AREA. Candidates for headship, vacant April 1985, of parent-controlled Nursery/Co-ed Primary School please write with brief C.V. and qualifications details. Post non-resident. Candidates must be qualified appropriately to age-group and prepared to accept administrative and managerial responsibilities.

Reply to Chairman of Governors, Write Box No. 125, 00247, Felary House, 785, Lane, ECLM 180010 (06053)

Further details of the post and information about the school may be obtained from the Headmistress to whom application should be made by letter enclosing a full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees. (04779) 180019

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Deputy Headships

Second Masters/
Mistresses

DORSET

ST. ANTHONY'S
LEWESPORT SCHOOL
Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6EN

(Independent Girls' Boarding and Day School, Roman Catholic)

(410 girls 11-18, 309 Boarders, 95 in the Sixth Form)

Applications are invited from experienced and well qualified graduates for the post of Deputy Headmistress. Salary will be according to the Burnham Scale 1 with London Fringe Allowance and Government Superannuation Scheme.

Further details of the post and information about the school may be obtained from the Headmistress to whom application should be made by letter enclosing a full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees. (04779) 180019

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COLLEGE OF F.E.
continued

HAMPSHIRE

CRICKLADE COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

LECTURER GRADE II IN

TECHNOLOGY AND

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Required for 1 January 1985

to teach on a wide range of

full time and part time BTEC

and GCSE courses.

Cricklade is a tertiary college

under FE regulations.

Salary: £5,649 - £9,735

(under review).

Further details and application

forms may be obtained

by telephoning the Principal,

Cricklade College, Clapton

East, Andover, Hants. SP10

25. (04254) Ext.

29. (04254) 230026

29. (04254) 230026

HERTFORDSHIRE

EAST HERTS COLLEGE

TECHNOLOGY AND

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Applications are invited for

the following re-advertised

post from suitably qualified

and experienced persons. Ap-

plications received in re-

sponse to the earlier ad-

vertisement will be fully recon-

sidered.

LECTURER IN

BUSINESS STUDIES

Leader and

to teach on BTEC Busi-

ness studies courses as well

as on Secretarial and Short

Courses as appropriate. Abi-

lity to teach Business Admini-

stration, Economics and re-

levant supporting Business

Subjects.

Graduate level qualifica-

tions and teacher training re-

quired.

London Fringe Area Allo-

cations.

Further details and applica-

tions may be obtained from

the Principal's Secretary, to

whom they should be re-

turned within two weeks of

the appearance of this ad-

vertisement. (04753) 230026

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

ALVERBURY COLLEGE

TECHNOLOGY AND

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Applications are invited from

men and women for the De-

partment of Business & Man-

agement.

LECTURER GRADE II IN

COMPUTER STUDIES

Teaching commercially pro-

duced and computerized

systems and computer Li-

brary and computer Li-

brary to teach a wide

range of full-time and part-

time courses. The ability to

teach at least one of the fol-

lowing would be a recommenda-

tion and (if possible) qualifi-

cations in the following: Pro-

gramming, Industrial Man-

agement, Financial Ac-

counting and Business Sta-

tistics would be especially

welcome.

Applicants should be gradu-

ates or professionally qual-

ified, or have a teaching qual-

ification, and preferably have

some industrial/commercial

experience. Evidence of com-

puter-based studies

should be submitted.

Duties to commence on 1

January 1985, or earlier if

possible.

Salary: £11,215 - £13,215

(currently subject to re-

view).

Applicants with removals

and other expenses will be

provided in approved cases.

Application forms and fur-

ther particulars for the

above post may be obtained

from the Principal (upon re-

quest) or from the Principal's

Secretary, to whom the com-

pleted forms should be re-

turned within 14 days of

the appearance of this ad-

vertisement. (04973) 230026

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ESSEX

BABLDON COLLEGE OF

FURTHER EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY AND

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Applications are invited from

men and women for the De-

partment of Business & Man-

agement.

LECTURER GRADE II IN

COMPUTER STUDIES

Teaching commercially pro-

duced and computerized

systems and computer Li-

brary and computer Li-

brary to teach a wide

range of full-time and part-

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